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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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JANUARY, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

On JANUARY THIRTIETH

I will sell at AUCTION the fine collection of

United States and Foreign Gold, Silver and Copper Coins

OF

MR. C. R. STEPHENS

MOLINE, ILL.

Which includes a complete set of the

Pikes Peak Gold Coins, Round and Octagonal $50 Gold Pieces, Rare Silver Dollars, Cents, etc.

Among the Cents there is one of the two or three known specimens of the

1793 CENT, CROSBY 8 F.

CATALOGUES WITH FINE PLATES FREE TO INTENDING BIDDERS

Price List, showing amounts realized for each lot of this sale, only fifty cents.

WRITE TO

B. MAX MEHL,

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - - - - - TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher
301-304 Flatiron Building, Fort Worth, Texas
ASSOCIATE EDITORS: Dr. Eugene G. Courteau, J. de Lagerberg
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Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JANUARY, 1915 No. 1

The Dr. Millard Collection of U. S. Large Cents is to be Sold at Auction

What is undoubtedly one of the most complete collections of cents ever to have come on the market, will be offered at auction in the latter part of February.

It is the collection formed by Dr. S. T. Millard of Topeka, Kansas. Dr. Millard has commissioned B. Max Mehl to sell his entire collection at auction without reserve.

This collection numbers over seven hundred different varieties of the large cents, including some of the very rarest dies, among which there are two or three claimed to be unique. There are twelve varieties of the 1793; fifty-four of 1794; ten of 1795; twenty-six of 1796; twenty-six of 1797; forty-nine of 1798, etc.

Nygren Collection of United States Coins, held by B. Max Mehl on Novembered according to the standard works on the subject: Crosby, Hays, Daughty, Gilbert and McGirk.

The catalogue will be ready in the early part of February and will be distributed free. Those desiring a copy of the catalogue should write promptly to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

Renewals Should be Sent Promptly

Approximately 75 per cent of the subscriptions expiring with the December number have already been renewed. The Numismatic Monthly does its own subscription soliciting. It is now the largest circulated numismatic publication in the world and we hope to make it even better from time to time. When you receive notice that your subscription has expired, please renew promptly so that you will not miss the next number. Back numbers of the Monthly are a very scarce article and cost 15c to 25c each.

Denford Numismatic Club

Common Coins That Are Scarce.

"I have always," said Hill, "had a fancy for the copper coins issued by the Popes for the Papal States, these are quite easy to classify, as almost all bear the same observe type—the arms of the Pope surrounded by his title and the year of his Pontificate. The Reverse of the early Papal coins is usually occupied by figures of the Saints, Peter or Paul, or the holy gate. The "Papal Arms" consist of the personal arms of the reigning Pope on a shield surmounted by the tiara and keys of St. Peter. When coins are issued during a vacancy the arms are those of the senior Cardinal surmounted by his hat, and above all the keys under an umbrella or canopy. The legend will then be SEDE VACANTE, as in 1623 and 1440. The last coinage of the Papal States was under Pius IX., who, after a series of the usual type, issued in 1866, 9 pieces of 1 Centesimi and ½, 1, 2 and 4 Soldi, with his bust upon the Obverse. The full inscription on a Papal coin following the name of the Pope is PONTIFEX MAVIMUS. ANNO (year in Roman numerals). The series issued for Rome is the most important, but there are coins of various localities outside, which are of great interest. These have generally the name of locality, and can easily be identified. The word ROMAN on the reverse indicates that the coin was struck for Rome.

"Pius VI., who occupies the chair of St. Peter from 1445 to 1499, deserves the thanks of collectors, for introducing two new values and types. These are 5 Baiocchi. Obv., Head of the Madonna, surrounded by the words SANCTA DEI GENETRIX. The Rev. has value and name of locality surrounded by the name, title, and apostolical date of Pope, the date below. The 2½ Bai. has on Obv. the bust of St. Peter holding the Keys, surrounded by S. P. APOSTOLORUM-PRINCEPS. Rev., Value, locality and date. There are, I think, about sixteen localities outside Rome that issued one or both of these types. Many of the coins are signed by the die cutter, the initials being under the bust. The great majority of those I have bear the initials 'T M' (Tommaso Mercandetti). A 2½ Bai. of Perugia is signed 'G H' (Giovachino Hamerani, Jun.), and a 5 Bai. of San Severino is signed 'R A.' A few are unsigned. There is often considerable difference in the weight and size of coins of the same value struck for the same locality. I have specimens of the 2½ Bai. of Pergola, San Severino and Viterbo that differ greatly. Of two Pergola pieces one weighs fully three times more than the other; both of these are signd 'T M.'

"I have a 5 Bai. of Vivita Vecchia that is evidently a counterfeit. The

workmanship is rude, the Obv. legend has GENITRX instead of GENITRIX, and the sevens in the date (1497) are retrograde. This is unsigned.

"I have a 3 Bai. of Roniglione, Obv. The Madonna, and FEDELTA E RELIGIONE. Rev., BAIOCCHI TRE RONCIGLONE, 1799, in four lines, but this can hardly be called common." "I should say not," remarked Howard, "and I should hardly call the 2½ and 5 Bai. pieces that you have been speaking about, common coins, you did not pick those up for 5 cents each."

"They are not exactly 5-cent coins," said Hill, "but I have thirty-two pieces of these three values, all good, some very fine, and their total cost has been under ten dollars, they would average about a quarter each and I think that's cheap. I think everyone has come to me from a sale, but I've been a few years bringing them together.

"Besides the two types I have mentioned, Pius VI. issued some very attractive coins for places outside Rome. The large 2 Bai. of Bologna is one of the most attractive coins I know of. Obv. a lion rampant and BONONIA DOCET (Bologne teaches). The Rev. has name, title and date (in Roman numerals). This coin is 38 M. M. in size.

"There are issues for Ancona, Foligno, Gubbio, Pergola, Perugia, and other places of smaller value by the same Pope, in fact a most interesting collection may be made if we confine ourselves to coins struck during his reign. If we do we may well include the Mistura, or brass cast coins issued under him 1796-8, at Rome. I have three denominations of these. The large 60 Bai., Obv. The Papal Arms surrounded with PIUS SEXTUS PONT. MAXIMUS ANNO XXIII. Rev., BAIOCCHI SESSANTA, 1797, in three lines inside a circle, the whole within a wreath. This piece is signed on both sides, 'T M.'

"I have another of the same value for the preceding year, exactly the same type, signed 'G H.' Both are 36 M. M.

"The 25 Bai. has on Obv. the Tiara, or triple crown of the Pope, from this hangs a Stole supporting the crossed Keys. PIUS. SEXTUS. P. M. A. XXI. Rev., VENTICIN QUE BAIOCCHI, 1795, in four lines on cartouche, within a wreath. The 2 Carlini is of the same type of Obv., but Rev. is found both within a wreath; and on cartouche, legend DUE CARLINI ROMANI and the year, in four lines. These pieces may be well termed 'money of necessity' and are somewhat out of the common.

"Collecting is easy today—any one with Scott's Catalogue, and Mr. Higgins' 'Copper Coins of Europe.' Most valuable books which every young collector should have and study, can easily locate nearly every coin that comes into his hands. The collector who studies his coins will be well repaid for all the time spent on his hobby."

Decorations and War Medals

As Discussed at a Special Meeting of the American Numismatic Association.

A Special Meeting of the American Numismatic Society was held at the building of the Society on Monday, December 7th, at 8:30 P. M.

The subject of the meeting was "Decorations and War Medals," of which there was a very interesting and comprehensive exhibition.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. H. R. Drowne; and Messrs. B. L. Belden, J. Sanford Saltus and Dr. Holm delivered addresses on the subject of the meeting.

Mr. Belden, after explaining the meaning and scope of Decorations, went into details of Decorations of governments that belong to the past, especially the Decorations of the "Lost Cause," the Confederate States. He gave a very interesting history of the silver medal presented by the ladies of Houston to the Davis guards who defended the fort at Sabine Pass, very few of which are known, and of which a specimen was exhibited. This is the only instance of a medal given for valor during the Civil War.

Mr. Belden then referred to the Bronze Cross given forty years afterwards by the alumni of the Virginia Military Institute to survivors of the Cadet Battalion which fought in the victorious battle at Newmarket against General Siegel's Corps. This cross was also exhibited. The third decoration of the Confederacy is the Southern Cross of the Legion of Honor, which was given by the Daughters of the Confederacy and was for the first time distributed to Confederate veterans in 1900. Although many had been issued, they are hard to obtain.

Mr. Belden then called attention to some interesting bronze, silver and gold medals which had been struck by a New York firm by order of President Madero, of Mexico, but which, owing to his overthrow, were never issued, a specimen of which was shown in the exhibition.

He also referred to the various well known decorations of the nations taking part in the present war which were contained in the exhibit especially the Victoria Cross of England, the Cross of the Legion of Honor of France and the Iron Cross of Germany.

Mr. J. S. Saltus made the subject of his address "The Decorations of Governments That Might Have Been," and told some of the history of the Cross of the princes of Lusignan, who formerly were Kings of Cyprus, and the medals and badges issued by the various Royalists of France, among them those issued for Louis XVII in 1795; those of the Duke of Angouleme in 1814; and those of Henry V. He also told of a decoration planned by Napoleon I in imitation of the Order of the Golden Fleece; medals issued by Charles I and II of England, and French Bonapartist decorations of Napoleon II, IV and V. He further referred to the decorations of Antoine II of Patagonia, who died before an expedition to this country had started; and to those of Don Jaime and King Emanuel of Portugal.

Dr. Holm in his address referred to the orders of the Princes of Lusignan as finding recognition in Russia and described some of the orders of Denmark,

especially the order of the Elephant and the order of the Danebrog which was founded in 1219. He also referred to the great value of the English Order of Merit, whose membership was limited to twenty-four.

After these addresses, further discussion of the subject took place, during which Dr. Kunz, Mr. Proskey, Mr. Belden and Dr. Holm made remarks.

European Military War Decorations

The Iron Cross of Germany, the Medaille Militaire of France, and the Cross of St. George of Russia are the three most famous Continental European war and service decorations. They are all individual awards. The Iron Cross is the highest German individual decoration given to officers and soldiers for distinguished service in war. It was founded during the war of liberation movement in 1813, and was revived at the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war in 1870. It pays an allowance of from 3 to 6 marks monthly to the "rank and file."

The Victoria Cross is awarded solely for "the merit of conspicuous bravery," and is the reward for a deed of courage in the presence of the enemy. It was founded by royal warrant in 1856, and as its motto declares, is "For Valour" alone. All soldiers are eligible. It pays the "rank and file" an allowance of 10 pounds yearly.

The Legion of Honor is an order, and is a much more general distinction than the decorations either of the Iron Cross for distinguished service or the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery. The Legion of Honor is a civil as well as a military honor, and is the only "order" in France ranking with the highest European orders. It is thus scarcely comparable with the Victoria Cross or the Iron Cross. The Legion of Honor was instituted by Napoleon in 1802 as a general military and civil order of merit. The President of the Republic is Grand Master of the order; there is a Grand Chancellor and a council, and there are five classes in the order itself: Grand Cross, (limited to 80); Grand Officer, (limited to 200); Officer, (limited to 4,000), and Chevalier or Knight, unlimited. It pays salaries to military and naval members when on the active lists, ranging from Grand Cross, 3,000 francs, to Chevalier, 250 francs. In ordinary circumstances the order admits only those who have performed twenty years military, naval, or civil service, but extraordinary service in time of war and in civil life admit to any rank. Among the women who have been honored are Rosa Bonheur, Mme. Curie, and Sarah Bernhardt.

The French Medaille Militaire is a decoration for privates, non-commissioned officers, and occasionally officers who have distinguished themselves or rendered long or meritorious service. It pays a salary of 100 francs a year.

Record Number of Coins Struck at the British Mint

The number of coins struck at the British Mint in 1913 was 185,436,761, the highest figure on record, being nearly 14 millions more than in 1912. The increase was due to the unprecedented coinage of bronze. The profit for the year was £870,944.

Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome

Especially written for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

By SIGMUND KRAUSZ

Illustrated from Authentic Coins of the Period in the Collection of the Author.

Galba

68—69 A. D.

[This is the seventh of a series of twelve articles on the Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome. The eighth article will appear in next month's issue.—Ed.]

The death of Nero left the Roman Empire without a direct heir to the throne and a short interregnum followed, during which Clodius Macer, propractor in Africa, declared himself emperor. He was soon murdered by Trebonius Garricianus, and Galba, administrator of Hispania Tarraconensis, who also had assumed the purple at the news of Nero's death, proceeded to Rome to take possession of the supreme power which had been offered him by the Praetorians.

Servius Sulpicius Galba, a scion of the old family Sulpicia, was born on December 24, in the year 3 B. C. He started his military career in Gaul and served later in Africa, where he greatly distinguished himself by courage, justice and the establishment of strict discipline in the army. Nero then entrusted him with the government of Spain. At the death of Caligula his friends had urged him to assume the purple, but he remained loyal to Claudius, who esteemed him highly. When Julius Vindex, however, raised the flag of rebellion against Nero in 68 A. D. and urged Galba to take the throne, he, too, came forth, first as the legate of the Roman people and, at the news of Nero's demise, as the candidate for his succession. It is believed that he was inspired to this by information that Nero had planned his assassination. He styled himself Caesar and entered Rome, where he was welcomed and recognized by the senate and the Praetorians.

He was seventy years old at the time and it soon became evident that the qualifications which, formerly, had made him popular had vanished, as was already shown in his later administrations. His indulgence of greedy favorites, ill-timed severity and, more than anything else, his pronounced avarice caused much dissatisfaction. He had failed to make the usual donations to the military on his accession and some of the German legions called on the Praetorians to select another emperor. Galba, recognizing his infirmities and

old age, adopted a young and talented man, named Piso, whom he associated with himself in the government and appointed his coadjutor and successor. By this act he offended Otho, governor of Lusitania, who had supported Galba and had hoped to succeed him. He furthermore made again the mistake of not offering gratuities to the Praetorians when he presented to them Piso as his successor. Otho profited by the general dissatisfaction and excited them to insurrection. When the old emperor started out personally to quell this rebellion he was murdered by the soldiers as he crossed the forum. This occurred in January, 69 A. D., seven months after he had assumed the purple.

Considering the short reign of Galba, his mintage seems exceedingly large, and it is generally believed that many of his coins were struck before he became emperor. A large number of them are undoubtedly of Spanish fabric, especially those of gold and silver, and these are generally distinguished by a small globule under the head of the obverse. With the exception of small bronze, all classes of coins are represented in the mintage of Galba, none of which, however, are common. The rarest are probably his denarii without his head and some reverses of first bronze, notably the ADLOCUTIO, HISPANIA CLUNIA SUL., LIBERTAS RESTITUTA, ROMA RESTI., SENATUS PIETATI AUGUSTI and XXXX REMISSA reverses. Some of his first and second bronze has been restored by Titus and these are rather scarce. Two varieties of silver quinarii are also quite rare. They bear the reverse VICTORIA GALBAE AUG. Well preserved first bronze of Galba is much sought for on account of the characteristic portrait of the emperor.

Medal Issues and Awards

Ernest Solvay, known the world over for his remarkable soda process, and one of the wealthiest Industrialists in Europe, has been held by the Germans as a hostage for the payment of the 40.000,000 mark war levy imposed on Brussels by the Germans. Dr. Solvay received from the German emperor a very important decoration, and the Berlin Academy of Sciences presented him with a gold medal. Besides he is a Noble prize-winner.

Mayor Mitchel, of New York City, presented on November 10th medals and honor certificates to 165 persons who saved lives in the last year. Silver medals were awarded where there had been actual risk of life in making the rescues. Bronze medals for rescues entailing other risks. The medals were awarded by the Volunteer Life-Saving Corps.

President Poincare has conferred on General Joffré "The Medaille Militatire," the highest honor that can be conferred on a General in the French army or an Admiral in the navy. The Medaille Militaire was established in 1853 exclusively for non-commissioned officers and men of the army and navy for valorous work after such officers already have attained the highest rank in the Legion of Honor.

A Medallion has been struck in honor of General von Hindenburg. "The conqueror of the Russians" and the "Liberator of East Prussia." The obverse shows the grim face of the General and on the reverse side is shown the haughty knight in armor, striking furiously with a huge sword. J. de L.

Prices Realized at the Nygren Sale

The following are some of the prices realized at the sale of the Arthur C. Nygren Collectio nof United States Coins, held by B. Max Mehl on November 30, 1914:

Dollar, 1794 Fine.....$132.50
1796 Extremely fine 8.00
1800 Uncireulated 8.25
1836 Brilliant proof 18.60
1838 Brilliant proof 250.00
1839 Brilliant proof 54.00
1850 Proof 3.60
1852 Extremely fine 66.00
1858 Brilliant sharp proof 33.50
1886 S. mint. Une. brilliant mint condition 26.50
1887 S. mint. Une., brilliant mint luster 12.50
1888 S. mint. Brilliant Une. 12.50
1870 CC. mint. Brilliant semi-proof 9.50
1870 CC. mint. Extremely fine, sharp 6.25
1871 CC. mint. Very fine, sharp, with considerable mint luster. 32.00
1885 CC. mint. Uncirculated..... 21.00
Half Dollars. 1796 Strictly finc... 70.00
1796 16 stars. Very fine..... 87.00
1797 Extremely fine 72.00
1815 over '12. Extremely fine..... 7.25
1815 Extremely fine 4.60
1836 Uncirculated, bright mint luster 4.10
1852 About uncirculated..... 3.00
1855 Proof 2.35
1852 O. mint. Semi-proof..... 3.10
1878 S. mint. Proof 32.00
1871 CC. mint. Nearly Une. 11.50
1872 CC. mint. Practically Une. ... 10.50
1873 CC. mint. With arrow heads. Une. mint state..... 6.00
1873 CC. mint. Upright CC. Une. 21.00
1878 CC. mint. Fine..... 3.00
Quarter Dollars. 1823 Very good. 72.00
1853 Without arrows and rays. Uncirculated 12.60
1849 O. mint. Brilliant Une..... 16.25
1891 O. mint. Fine 3.60
1855 S. mint. Fine 2.75
1857 S. mint. Very fine..... 6.00
1858 S. mint. Extremely fine..... 8.25
1859 S. mint. Very fine..... 3.25
1865 S. mint. Uncireulated..... 5.75
1867 S. mint. Uneireulated..... 4.20
1878 Uneireulated 3.40
1870 CC. mint. Very fine..... 8.25
1871 CC. mint. Very good..... 5.60
1873 CC. mint. Good 8.50
Dimes, 1796. Brilliant proof..... 11.00
1797 13 stars. Nearly finc..... 6.25
1797 16 stars. Strictly fine..... 7.50
1798 over '97. Very fine..... 5.00
1798 Practieally Une. 11.25
1800 Strictly very fine..... 7.75
1801 Fine to very fine..... 9.25
1802 Praetieally uneireulated..... 26.00
1804 Very good 11.00
1811 over '09. Practieally Unc. 4.50
1858 S. mint. Uneireulated..... 21.00
1870 S. mint. Uneirculated..... 10.75
1884 S. mint. Brilliant semi-proof. 4.50
1885 S. mint 4.75
1871 CC. mint. Very fine..... 8.25
1873 CC. mint. Fine 21.00
Half Dimes, 1792 Half Disme. Very fine 18.00
1794 Extremely fine 6.00
1797 13 stars. Fine 21.00
1805 Extremely fine 14.00
1846 Very fine 4.25
1860 Uncireulated 6.50
1853 O. mint 4.30
$10.00 Gold, 1800. Very fine..... 16.75
1839 About fine 20.00
1907 Uncirculated 16.10
$5.00 Gold, 1795. Very good..... 19.25
1827 Extremely fine 225.00
1852 D. mint. Very good..... 35.00

New York Numismatic Club

Park Avenue Hotel, December 11, 1914.

President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Belden, Boyd, Burke, H. Chapman, S. H. Chapman, DeLagerberg, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Hesslein, Higgins, Kennedy, Miller, Nangle, Newell, Proskey, Ryder, Sears, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser and Mr. Robinson as guest.

After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted with some slight corrections.

The secretary reported the receipt of a very graceful letter of acceptance of his election to honorary membership by Mr. Memmo Cagiati, as well as the receipt of his photograph, and his following publications: Il Supplemento, All'Opera, Etc., for 1911, 1912, 1913, and the January-March and April-June 1914 numbers.

The secretary further reported the receipt of two speeimen medals which had been issued privately in New York upon the opening of the Panama Canal. He also reported the receipt of a letter from the New York Library in regard to the publications of the Club, and the receipt of one magazine.

The seeretary also reported the following in regard to the membership of the Club:

In the beginning of 1914, the Club had 70 regular members, to which were eleeted during the year 12 regular members. We also eleeted four corresponding members, and one honorary member, making a total of 87 memberships, from which the Club lost three through resignations, one through death, one dropped, and two whose standing is doubtful at the present time, making a total membership of all grades at the present time of eighty.

Mr. Boyd, in behalf of the Executive Committee, submitted its report as follows:

By way of a summary of the activities of the Club during the year, the average attendance at the meeting was twenty-two, and during the course of the year a total of eight papers has been read before the Club. The reading of the following papers is planned for the next meetings:

January meeting, "A Plea for American Token Collectors," by Mr. T. L. Elder.

February meeting, "United States Fractional Paper Money of the Civil War Period," by Dr. D. W. Valentine.

March meeting, "War Medals of the Confederacy," by Mr. Bauman L. Belden.

April meeting, "The Greek Cities of Sicily" (Illustrated), by Mr. S. H. Chapman.

The Executive Committee also called to the attention of the Club and read a letter received from Mr. Thomas L. Elder recommending that some action be taken to urge upon the government the adoption of a new and more artistic design for the silver coinage of the United States, which could, by law, be changed in 1917.

The withdrawal of Mr. Higgins' resolution was also announced.

The applieation of Mr. Herbert Niklewicz to membership was received, and referred to the Membership Committee.

The Publication Committee recommended deferring for the following year the publication of the Year Books, so that both 1914 and 1915 should be combined.

In behalf of the Medallic Art Committee, Mr. Swanson reported that the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans would be commemorated by the re-issue of a medal struck upon that occasion a hundred years ago, and that also a Jackson Medal would be re-issued on that occasion.

Mr. DeLagerberg reported on and exhibited the following medals and coins:

Commemoration Medals:

The First: struck on the occasion of the first Ocean-to-Ocean steamship passage August 3 last, through Panama Canal (full details of this Medal will be found in January 1915 Number of "Numismatist").

The Second: struck for the Sixth Convention of the Federation of Chamber of Commerce, City of Sorel, Quebec, Canada. (See October "Numismatist," page 530).

"The Dorner Memorial Medal," awarded the American Carnation Society, founded 1912. (By courtesy of Henning Ryden, Sculptor).

A specimen of the two and one-half million Swedish Riksbank "One Crown Currency, recently issued.

And a "Deux Gourdes" 1827, Republic of Haiti Banknote.

The election of officers for the year 1915 then followed, the following officers being elected by rising vote:

For President—Elliott Smith.

For Vice President—A. R. Frey.

For Secretary and Treasurer—Moritz Wormser.

The following standing committees were then elected after the secretary was instructed to cast one ballot:

For Executive Committee—F. C. C. Boyd, Chairman; T. L. Elder, D. W. Valentine, E. H. Adams.

For Membership Committee—D. R. Kennedy, Chairman; C. H. Imhoff, R. Kohler, D. Proskey, J. W. Scott.

For Publication Committee—E. H. Adams, G. H. Blake, D. W. Valentine.

For Medallic Art Committee—J. M. Swanson, J. deLagerberg, A. G. Heaton, E. F. Newell, Dr. G. F. Kunz.

All the successful candidates accepted their election with appropriate remarks.

Mr. Robinson was then greeted by the President as guest of the evening.

The Executive Committee then recommended that the President appoint a committee of eight to take up the subject of Mr. Elder's resolution, and the following were appointed: Mr. William H. Woodin, as chairman; E. H. Adams, H. C. Higgins, A. G. Heaton, J. M. Swanson, S. H. Chapman, T. L. Elder, F. C. C. Boyd.

The exhibits of the evening were as follows:

By Mr. Valentine: A German two mark bill, dated Aug. 12, 1914. One-half dime 1850, small o, uncirculated condition.

By Mr. Frey: Very fine specimens of the 20 leva of Bulgaria dated 1894 and 1908, showing the old and new heads of King Ferdinand I.

By Mr. S. H. Chapman: A set of photographs he had taken on various trips abroad, of Greek and Roman sculptures in almost all European museums.

By Mr. H. Chapman: The only impression of hitherto unknown dies of a pattern cent of 1792 by Birch of Philadelphia, showing bust of Liberty to right, with short and curly hair, flowing locks over her right and left shoulders, and a lock coming across the bust. Insc. Liberty Parent of Science and Industry. Rev., United States of America G. W. Pt. In the centre wreath enclosing beaded circle, in the centre floreated ornaments above, and below "one cent" written in two lines across center. Pewter, extremely fine.

1795 Eagle in brilliant condition.

1863 cent with very wide margin outside of Insc.

A large series of $1.00 and $2.00 National Bank notes from various states.

A set of the first $1.00 and $2.00 greenbacks and the $5.00 of the 1862 second issue.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, November 17, 1914.

The 64th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order by President Geo. J. Bauer. Members present: Messrs. Merritt, W. H. Amberg, Woolsey, Plumb, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Harold, Borradaile. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. G. M. Hunter, of Apollo, was elected to membership.

Mr. Borradaile exhibited samples of his coin trays for quarters and half dollars, made up in different colors.

Publications received: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly, Philatelic West, Catalogue of Edward Michael's Sale November 28, 1914.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, December 1, 1914.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, December 1, 1914.

The 65th meeting was called to order by President George J. Bauer. Members present: Messrs. Bauer, Woolsey, L. G. Amberg, Borradaile, Stanley, Merritt, Yawger, Emrich, W. H. Amberg, French. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

A specimen of the Panama medal was presented to the Association by Mr. J. F. Newman of New York City, which will be placed with our exhibit at the Rochester Municipal Museum.

Mr. Borradaile exhibited a new and very neat idea in a coin tray containing all the 1873 silver, copper and nickel pieces, in proof condition, consisting of the Standard and Trade Dollar, 50, 25, 20, 10, 5, 3-cent pieces, silver, and the 1, 2, 3, and 5-cent pieces, copper and nickel.

Mr. L. G. Amberg exhibited an 1856 flying eagle, 1863 bronze, 1852 Indian Head, in laurel and oak, 1859 shield cents, 1864 two-cent piece, small motto, all in proof, and many others.

Publications received: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly, and Philatelic West.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, December 15, 1914.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, December 15, 1914.

The 66th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association called to order, President Geo. J. Bauer presiding. Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, Ballard, King, Plumb, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Handler, Stanley, Bostwick, Harold, Koeb, Wild, Hill, Borradaile, L. M. Clark.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Rochester Philatelic Society reported that it was decided to hold our annual dinner jointly with that Association. Motion carried that a Committee be appointed to act with a Committee from the Rohester Philatelic Society to make arrangements for the dinner, select a menu not to exceed $1.50 per plate, and arrange to have photograph taken of the diners. President appointed Mr. Merritt, Mr. L. G. Amberg and Mr. King.

The Treasurer's report for the year ending December 31, 1914, was read and approved by Board of Trustees.

Nominations for officers for the coming year were next in order. President Bauer nominated Dr. French as chairman to proceed with the nominations, Mr. Harold and Mr. Ballard to act as tellers.

Mr. Bostwick nominated Mr. L. G. Amberg for President, and there being no other nominee, the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for L. G. Amberg for President, and he was duly elected.

Mr. Merritt presented the name of Mr. F. B. King for Vice President, who was unanimously elected.

Mr. L. G. Amberg nominated Mr. H. H. Yawger for Secretary, and Mr. F. E. Merritt for Treasurer, both of whom were re-elected.

Messrs. Harold, Hill, Handler, Ballard, and Stanley were nominated and elected for trustees for 1915.

President Bauer thanked the members for the support given him during his term of office.

On motion of Dr. French, a vote of thanks was extended to the retiring officers for their good work during the past year.

A motion was also carried that Mr. Merritt be extended a vote of thanks for his donation of a 1799 Cent to our exhibit at the Rochester Municipal Museum.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, January 5, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Chicago Numismatic Society

The 130th monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held in their rooms 1622 Masonic Temple on November 6th, 1914, and it was a real numismatic meeting.

Under exhibitions Mr. Simpson showed a collection of 80 crowns selected from his splendid collection and he read a very instructive paper on them.

Mr. E. Michael showed extremely fine cents dated 1793, 1803, 1826 and 1841, brilliant proof dollars dated 1836, 1839, 1851, 1852 and 1858 and a sand blast proof gold set of 1908.

Magazines received: Spinks circular for September and October. The Numismatist for November and Mehl's Numismatic Monthly.

Catalogs received: Elder's 1-14-14, Mehl's 11-30-14 and U. S. Coin Co. for 11-20-14.

Adjourned to meet December 4th, 1914.

M. P. CAREY, Secretary.

The 131st monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held December 4, 1914. The annual election of officers took place at this meeting, resulted in the following being elected for the year 1915:

President—J. B. Holmes.
Vice President—Mitchell Baker.
Secretary—M. P. Carey.
Treasurer—E. C. Verkler.
Librarian—E. Jonas.
Curator—G. F. Brown.
Censor—R. E. Davis.
Executive Committee—Messrs. Holmes, Carey and E. Michael.

Under exhibits, Mr. Brand showed three large odd-shaped silver pieces about 150 years old from Siam and a unique territorial gold piece.

Adjourned to meet Friday, January 8, 1915.

M. P. CAREY, Secretary.

Clever Counterfeiters' Notes Are More Artistic Than Uncle Sam's Own

United States secret service men are on their mettle.

The "presto change" act of a counterfeiter has caused Washington to send out an imperative order, "Get this man or men."

The bleaching of a $1 bill and remaking it into a note of higher denomination has caused all the stir in secret service circles.

Uncle Sam has been defeated. His ink and his silk fiber notes have been duplicated by a clever counterfeiter. A $1 note has been washed, chemically, until pure white and now it is going the rounds, with many others, as a $5 and $10 silver certificate.

To add insult to injury, other clever counterfeiers have successfully put over some $500 and $1,000 treasury notes. The treasury officials say they are dangerous and defy detection, except by the most expert of experts.

The counterfeiter who has successfully bleached a $1 bill and made it into a $5 note, has more than a sense of humor mixed with his dishonesty.

He has IMPROVED on Uncle Sam's handiwork!

His $5 note, an Indian head bill, is thus criticised in a department circular:

"Exceedingly dangerous counterfeit. Photo-mechanical production on genuine paper of $1 silver certificate. The paper is obtained by bleaching, by chemical process, all the print from a genuine $1 note, leaving the paper perfectly white.

"The counterfeit is made by the same party who counterfeit 1568 Check letter 'C.' On specimen at hand of this new 1709 'C' certificate, the whole

portrait of Anepapa (the Indian) has been improved. Particularly the eye and headgear of feathers. The seal and number also appear to be better than on other issues."

The inks with which bills and notes are printed are of secret make and are all but unmatchable. The gold ink with which gold certificates are colored has given treasury officials trouble because of its fading with age.

The counterfeiter who has successfully washed the silver note and raised the denomination is considered most dangerous. There is no way to stop him raising gold certificates, and the department is bending every effort to capture the man responsible.

The secret service men have just finished a case wherein they chased two gold certificate counterfeiters for two years. The men, one a photographer and the other a printer, drifted into Chicago and opened up a small job printing office.

With a small amount of business as a blind, they began counterfeiting. The men made their own paper, by pasting and stringing linen silk threads through the middle, and then engraved a plate from a $10 gold certificate. After passing about $5,000 in counterfeit notes, the men became frightened and threw the plates in the river. Several days after they disposed of the plate they were arrested in New York city.

The one sticking point where most all counterfeiters fall is on inks. The government has so far been able to hold fast its secret of ink making. As a result, all notes, counterfeits, of all types, do not stand up when compared with originals. The tinting is not exact on counterfeits and this has enabled many bankers to trap counterfeiters.

—Detroit News.

An Automobile for Four Mint Marks(?).

In certain parts of the United States a story has been industriously circulated that the person finding four dimes, whose mint-marks were the letters F-O-R-D, would be presented with an automobile made by the company of that name. It is needless to say that no claim has yet been made for the automobile, but the tale has well served to keep the automobile company's name before the public. So general has this story been passed from one to another that some of the daily newspapers have referred to it in their columns. We give below an extract from one of these papers. Such articles have no great numismatic value, but help to stimulate the public interest in coin collecting:

"MINT MARKS.

"Because of the offer of a prize some firm is said to have made to any person who shall combine four different mint mark letters on 10-cent silver pieces, so as to spell a certain word of four letters, many Uticans are searching for the four coins that are said to bear these letters. Their search is hopeless. Two of the letters are 'F' and 'R.' There is no coin ever struck that bears either of these letters as a mint mark.

"The parent mint of the United States, that at Philadelphia, was organized in 1793, and has been in operation continuously since. It has struck coins of all denominations and metals, but there is no mint mark on any of them. In 1838 mints were organized at Charlotte, N. C., and at Dahlonega, Ga. They struck gold coins only. The mark of the first named mint is 'C' and that of the last named 'D.' The New Orleans mint was organized in 1838. It suspended in 1861. It reopened in 1879, but it has not been in operation for several years. Among the coins it struck was the dime or 10-cent silver piece, bearing the mark 'O' on the reverse. The San Francisco mint was organized in 1854 and has continued in operation since. It struck dimes bearing the mark 'S' on the reverse. The Carson City, Nev., mint was organized in 1870 and was discontinued in 1893. It struck dimes bearing the mark 'C C' on the reverse. One of them, that of 1874, is rare. The Denver, Col., mint was organized in 1906, and is still in operation. It strikes dimes bearing the mark 'D.'

"The combination would-be prize winners are searching for can easily be formed from the legend 'United States of America' on the dimes, but as will be seen from the facts stated above, no word containing either an 'F' or an 'R' can be formed from mint marks found on dimes or any other coins of the United States.—Utica Herald-Dispatch."

Daniel Parish Dies From Effects of Fall

Daniel Parish, a former President of the American Numismatic Society and the owner of a large collection of stamps, coins and antiques, died recently in the Roosevelt Hospital, New York City, from the effects of a fall received two weeks previously. He was 73 years old, was born in New York City, and ommenced his collections in early life. Mr. Parish lived at 13 West Forty-Eighth Street with his sister, Miss Susan Parish. He was a member of the New York Historical Society. Mr. Parrish was unmarried and, besides his sister, is survived by his brothers, Heiry Parish, president of the New York Life Insurance and Trust Company.

The New Nickel

A nickel of a new design
  Is issued by the mint;
It bears a buffalo, and scorns
  Of "trust in God" to hint.

The moralist is fain to ask,
  Is five cents so much cash
We do not need Most High support,
  And so are getting brash?

Or is five cents so small a sum
  It bears no taint abhorred,
And cannot stain our precious souls
  And make us need the Lord?

The golden calf dispensed with Him
  In ages long ago;
Will any better luck befall
  The nickel buffalo?

—McLandburgh Wilson.

American Numismatic Society

A regular meeting of the American Numismatic Society was held at the building of the Society on Saturday, December 19th, at 3:30 P. M. Mr. H. R. Drowne presided at the meeting. The proposed amendments to the by-laws which had been presented at the November meeting, came up for action.

The death of Mr. Daniel Parish, ex-President of the Society, whose activities for the furtherance of its interests are too well known to require mentioning here, was announced at the meeting, and an appropriate resolution expressing the sorrow of the Society at the death of one of its most prominent members was passed and ordered spread upon the minutes.

The numismatic subject of the meeting comprised decorations, war medals, and current coins of the nations now at war, a large number of which was on exhibition.

Mr. Wood spoke at some length on the "Coinage of Belgium."

In the course of his remarks, he stated that this coinage dates since 1830, the beginning of the Independence of Belgium. Belgium had at first a Bi-Metallic standard of currency, and later joined the "Latin Union."

The Belgian Mint also produced coins for other countries in recent years, among them Italy, Brazil, Roumania, Switzerland, Venezuela, Zanzibar, Russia, the Congo, Colombia, Egypt, Luxemburg, Peru, Siam, San Salvador.

Two interesting facts about the coinage of Belgium are, that the Inscriptions are in two languages, Flemish and French, representing the two elements of the population. Another interesting fact is that different coins are especially marked to distinguish the metal of which they are made.

Mr. E. T. Newell then made a few remarks referring to an exhibit by Mr. Proskey of Roman Commemorative Pieces struck upon wars and victories, and calling attention to the fact that a similar series had also been struck by Greek rulers, among them coins of Selecus 301 B. C., coins of Ptolemy, commemorating a victory over Alexander's general, Pericles; and coins struck in the Kingdom of the Parthians.

Mr. Elliott Smith made a few remarks on the subject of decorations and medals, referring especially to the medals of the Civil War for the "Iron Brigade," for the Army and Navy Veteran Society, for the Society of the Philippine Wars under General Lawton, and those of the Andersonville Prison Association. He expressed it as his opinion that service medals are more interesting than decorations, as they always have a history.

Mr. B. L. Belden then made some remarks in connection with the subject of the meeting, telling the history of the origin of the collection of medals of the Society.

When the Society decided to exhibit its collection at Paris in 1900, the scheme was suggested to add to the exhibit a collection of Insignia of Societies, and subsequently the Saltus and De Vinne collections formed the nucleus. Mr. Belden stated that it was unfortunate that until the time of the Civil War, the American Army and Navy never had any war medals, as the first one which was issued to constitute a general decoration was the medal of Honor in 1862. All other service medals were not established until later, among them the service medals for "Good Conduct," Spanish-American War, the China Relief Campaign, the Philippine and the Indian Wars and the Cuban Pacification.

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Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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FEBRUARY, 1915

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A Treat For Cent Collectors

The Dr. S. T. Millard Collection of large cents which is to be sold at auction this month or early part of March by B. Max Mehl will undoubtedly prove one of the most interesting collections of its kind ever offered. There are more than seven hundred varieties of the large cents, all numbred according to the standard works on the subject, containing of course, many of the rarest dies, some of which are claimed as unique.

Besides the Dr. Millard collection of cents, this sale will include an equally interesting assortment of other United States coins, both in silver, gold and copper. It will contain the collections of Dr. Edward Heissler of Chicago and Mr. Homer J. Hendricks of Cherryvale, Kansas, together with smaller consignments of good numismatic material. There are some rare United States and Pioneer gold. Rare silver, additional fine cents, Fractional Currency, etc. The catalogue will be ready shortly and will be distributed free to all who are interested. The Price List of the sale, showing amounts realized for each lot, will be supplied for only fifty cents.

We are informed by the Jun Kobayagawa Company that for next year, their Journal will only be dedicated to Numismatics, under the title of the "Journal of Far Eastern Numismatics," which will appear quarterly at the annual subscription of two dollars. Collectors who are interested in Far Eastern Numismatics will find it of unusual interest to subscribe to this excellent publication. Subscriptions may be sent direct to the Jun Kobayagawa Company, P. O. Box 214, Yokohama, Japan, or to Mehl's Numismatic Monthly.

Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome

Especially written for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

By SIGMUND KRAUSZ

Illustrated from Authentic Coins of the Period in the Collection of the Author.

Otho

69 A. D.

[This is the eighth of a series of twelve articles on the Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome. The ninth article will appear in next month's issue.—Ed.]

Marcus Salvius Otho, son of Lucius Salvius Otho and Albia Terentia, was born in 32 A. D. Both his parents were of illustrious family and he passed his early youth at the court of Nero, one of whose favorite companions he was and with whom he shared his life of pleasure and dissipation. There came, however, a rupture of these relations when Nero alienated from him the affections of Poppaea, who had been Otho's mistress. In order to disembarrass himself of his presence in Rome, Nero appointed him governor of Lusitania, a distant province, which he administered with creditable ability.

When the Gaul legions under Vindex revolted and Galba joined their cause, he attached himself to the latter and followed his fortunes until the time that Galba selected Piso as his successor. From this moment on he conspired against him and, a few days after the proclamation of Piso, openly marched to the camp of the Praetorians, where he harangued them to rebellion. The soldiers assasinated Galba, and Otho was immediately proclaimed emperor by the troops. He was recognized as such all over the empire, except in Germany, where a large army was stationed under the command of Vitellius.

He began his short reign under the best of auspices. He showed no animosity towards his personal enemies and devoted himself fervently to the affairs of government. This was at total variance with his usual habits and excited favorable hopes in the minds of his subjects. In spite of this good start, the rebellion of the German legions, started under Galba by Valens and Caecina, gained headway. The two commanders named prevailed upon Vitellius to join his forces to theirs and the combined armies marched into Italy. Otho saw himself forced to defend his empire and sent an army under the leadership of several good generals against the insurgents. Otho's commanders repeatedly gained advantages over the troops of Vitellius and his confederates, but failed to follow up their victories. The enthusiasm of his troops was

checked by the prudence of their generals, and this conduct of the leaders was unfortunately interpreted by the army as cowardice or treason. Dissension in Otho's camp soon broke out and this, becoming known to the generals of Vitellius, encouraged them to a joint attack on the emperor's army at Bedriacum, near the junction of the Adda and Po rivers in northern Italy. The latter was defeated, completely routed and its remnants went over to the victor on the day following the battle. Although by no means reduced to extremity and still able to repair his fortunes, Otho gave up the struggle rather than continue to shed the blood of Roman citizens and, after settling calmly his affairs, he committed suicide in the presence of his troops on the fifteenth of April, 69 A. D. His reign had lasted only 95 days.

It is evident that the short reign of Otho could not have been productive of a large mintage and, in fact, coins of this emperor are scarce. The Roman mint produced only gold and silver. Bronze of Roman mintage is absolutely unknown, and Otho's reign interrupts the noble series of first bronze which extends to Postumus. Some antiquarians claim that Otho was never recognized by the senate and that this is the reason that there are no first bronze of his in existence. There is, however, nothing to support this theory and it is still possible that some day a lucky find may bring forth the missing link in that series. The bronze coins of Otho, struck at Antioch in Syria are of mediocre fabric, but command high prices. They differ in size from second to first bronze. Among other colonial towns and provinces that struck coins for Otho are Alexandria, Clazomenae and Macedonia.

Dr. Hassler Presents His Collection to Museum

We learn that our old friend, Dr. F. A. Hassler of Santa Ana, California, has presented his entire collection of coins, tokens and medals to the Oakland Public Museum of Oakland, California. Dr. Hassler was one of the first members of the American Numismatic Association; his numismatic interest extended to the historical side of the science. His collection numbers some 700 pieces in excellent condition and his gift is unconditional. The collection is particularly rich in interesting silver and base silver coins of Europe.

C. P. Whitcomb, curator of the museum, has completed the inventory of the gift and is now engaged in grouping, cataloging and arranging the coins for display. They will be ready in a short time for exhibition.

Speaking of the collection, Mr. Whitcomb said:

"The museum is greatly indebted to Dr. Hassler for this gift. The coins are in an excellent state of preservation and not one is mutilated in any way. The collection will form a popular exhibit on account of its historical and educative value. I am now arranging to have the coins properly grouped and mounted for the museum. Dr. Hassler, the donor, is well known in numismatic studies and this collection represents many years of labor on his part in assembling it. It will be of interest to note that Dr. Hassler is not a resident of Oakland and we feel gratified that a non-resident should take such an interest in the Oakland Public Museum as to make such a valuable gift to it."

Dr. Hassler is well known among the numismatic fraternity, having been until recently a frequent contributor to the various numismatic publications.

Proposed Pan-American Coin

As a help to the popularization of the dollar in South American trade, Mr. Horace G. Knowles, former minister of the United States to several Balkan and Latin-American countries, has suggested that a souvenir five-dollar gold piece be coined in connection with the opening of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, so designed that the republics of South America may later be prevailed upon to adopt it among their own national coins and thus establish a form of money that will ultimately pass current anywhere in the Western Hemisphere.

The face of the coin is reproduced above. Mr. Knowles suggests that the reverse would probably be of special design for each of the countries adopting the "Pan-American" five-dollar gold piece, but some compromise might be found even for that. It will be seen that there is nothing exclusively North American about the design. The inscription is Latin; the word "dollar" is known throughout South America; "five" is purposely expressed by the Arabic numeral in common use. Mr. Knowles says that his design is the only one that shows the male and female of the human race together, with the place of honor given to woman. Thus feminism enters upon the national movement for trade expansion. The design typifies the North and South American Continents, the forceful Inca head representing the earliest government in this hemisphere, the refined Columbia head the most modern. The twenty-one stars are for the twenty-one American republics.

Mr. Knowles believes that the adoption of such a coin by all the countries of the Americas would give a distinct push to "dollar exchange." It would also tend to popularize our money, so that quotations in dollars would be everywhere in order. Being a gold coin, there would be no monetary standard difficulties involved. Special acts of Congress in this country, and of the legislative bodies of other countries would be necessary, although the Executives of some South American states have the power to act in such matters. Mr. Knowles has received the approval of a number of officials of this and South American countries, and of Mr. Charles C. Moore, president of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, for his idea, and it will without doubt be formally presented before Congress.

The idea of international coinage is not new. On several occasions it has been seriously proposed that a world-coin be adopted. The difficulties presented because of the differing and practically non-commensurate money systems among the nations have prevented more than passing consideration of such plans which, however, have been academically approved by authorities. Among the countries of the Latin Union, in Europe, certain silver coins of

common denomination (in francs) are legal tender in international transactions and pass current everywhere. The amount of coinage by the individual countries is regulated by treaty. It is a great convenience in trade, and doubtless has its psychological effect in binding together the trade of the nations of the Union.

It is not at all unlikely, if the coin is adopted as a souvenir of the Exposition, that a large issue will be minted, and then, if the program of inviting the South American nations to adopt it is carried out, the United States Government will offer to do the coining of their issues free for them.

Forged One-Pound Notes

George Cruikshank, the famous artist, used to declare that one of the "great events of his artistic life" related to forged one-pound notes. The great event was the production of the so-called "Bank Restriction Note" of 1818. Seeing on his way home in that year several women dangling from the gallows outside Newgate Prison, for uttering forged one-pound notes, he was so impressed by the horror of the sight that he forthwith designed, with lavish decoration of fetters and figures pendant, a "Bank-not—not to be imitated," and the notion was so happy in its instant reception by the public that the shop of the publisher, William Hone, in Ludgate Hill, was besieged for copies, and Cruikshank had to sit up all night to etch another plate.

Cruikshank afterward said: "Mr. Hone realized above seven hundred pounds, and I had the satisfaction of knowing that no man or woman was ever hanged after this for passing one-pound forged notes. The issue of my 'Bank-note—not to be imitated' not only put a stop to the issue of any more Bank of England one-pound notes, but also put a stop to the punishment of death for such an offense."

The Queer "Manilla" Coinage of Nigeria

Among the strangest coins in the world are those used in certain out-of-the-way towns and villages in Southwest Nigeria, on the west coast of Africa, and called "manillas." In shape they resemble a horseshoe with two extremities flattened out like a camel's foot. Being made of solid copper, three-eighths of an inch thick, they weigh over eight ounces each. In "face value" seven of these queer coins are equivalent to one quarter, so that a dollar's worth would be an uncomfortable, heavy load.

Not only are these "manillas" used among the natives, but white traders accept them as legal tender for goods sold at the various stores. At one time the strangely-shaped money had quite a circulation in certain parts of the coast, but its use is now restricted to a few bush towns and one or two of the smaller seaboard places, including Bonny, Brass and Akassa. "Manillas" are now very difficult to obtain, and curio collectors value them not solely by reason of their scarcity, but because of the novel serviette rings they make when silver plated.

The Annual Meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society

Was held on January 22nd at the St. Botolph Club, with Dr. Malcolm Storer in the chair.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner, called at 6:30 p. m., and a thoroughly good time was enjoyed by those present.

The annual election of officers was held and the same officers were re-elected, namely: Dr. Malcolm Storer, President; Robert Baird, Vice President and Curator; Horace L. Wheeler, Treasurer; G. L. Tilden, Secretary.

The following pieces were shown:

By Dr. Malcolm Storer: The following recent acquisitions of the Massachusetts Historical Society: Medals of Boston Revolver and Rifle club, (rifle), ditto (pistol), Boston University Athletic Association, American Pigeon Club, Middlesex School (Concord), Eastern Collie Breeders Association, Boston Police Medal, some 50-cent mis-strikes, Allston Golf Club, Clifton Golf Club, Harvard Club of Boston, Sixth Infantry, Medford Boat Club, St. Louis Agricultural Association of 1856, Milton Academy, Nahant Dory Club, American Red Cross Bazaar, Greater Boston Concourse Race, Bear Hill Golf Club Wakefield, John Boyle O'Reilly Monument, French Bulldog Club of New England. An engraved medal given Simeon Miller in 1804 "for his firmness in the republican cause, in gold, and a gold engraved medal given Thomas Paine in 1794 for his prologue at the opening of the Boston Theatre, and from the collection of medical medals of the Boston Library medals of Volta, the London International Dental Congress of 1914 and the Fifth International Hygienic Congress at Santiago de Chile in 1911.

By Mr. Wheeler: A Un Peso dated 1708 cast in silver shape of triangle, 5 Francs dated 1813 Empire Francais Napoleon Empeurer, Shilling of James I (English), Medal of George Whitefield in copper, 5 Kopecks of Catherine II dated 1791 of Russia, ¼ Real of Mexico 1798, ½ Rupee with Bengal native inscription.

By Mr. Fred Joy: Ring dollar of 1852 in gold, C. Bechtler 5 Dollars at Rutherford; Rev. "Georgia Gold 128 G. 22 carats," in proof condition. Mass. and California Co. five D. dated 1849 in silver; Rev. Seal of California, 13 stars, said to be unique in silver. English 1 Pound note, English 10 shilling note printed with red ink. Silver medal in commemoration of the opening of Cape Cod Canal in August, 1914.

By Mr. Gray: Four types of Mexican dollars, and a British regimental badge inscribed "Assaye."

By Mr. Tilden: Washington medals (Baker's numbers): No. 59, very fine; No. 60, uncirculated; No. 80 in tin; No. 265 and No. 267 with plain and milled edges; No. 363 in copper, brass and nickel. The brass and nickel were unknown to Baker. A Lincoln medal in pewter, for which Mr. Tilden was looking for information regarding the piece. It has parts of the Fugio die on both sides. On bust side the links are shown very plainly. On Reverse side the sun and rays, the word "Fugio" and parts of the words "Mind Your Business." Bust of A. Lincoln on obverse and wreath with the following within same: "The right man in the right place."

G. L. TILDEN, Secretary.

Third Annual Dinner of the Rochester Numismatic Association

The third Annual Dinner of the Rochester Numismatic Association was held jointly with the Rochester Philatelic Association at the Hotel Rochester on Tuesday evening, January 19, 1915.

A reception was held from 6 to 7 o'clock, to enable the guests to get acquainted with one another.

There was a round table in the center of the reception room, on which was a very attractive and appropriate centerpiece—a design of the head shown on our present quarter and half-dollar; over the head the motto "In God We Trust," and on the bottom the date, 1915; the milling on the edge was represented by about 100 glasses. This was all laid out with fresh green fern leaves on a white cloth.

At 7 o'clock the guests marched into the banquet room, accompanied by the orchestra. The table was attractively decorated with masses of red carnations, and with ferns and palms.

Mr. Joseph Hooper, oldest living member (nearly 82 years old) and one of the founders of the A. N. A., said grace, after which "America" was sung and the guests seated themselves to enjoy the menu, which was furnished in the usual excellent Hotel Rochester style and quality. All during the dinner Mr. Ottley, song and cheer leader, kept the guests singing the songs and parodies of popular airs.

During the evening Mr. Koeb submitted a finished proof of our Third Anniversary Medal, with Mr. Bauer's portrait. All agreed that this is the finest piece of work Mr. Koeb has yet produced for us. The reverse of the medal is to be with the seal of Rochester.

Mr. L. G. Amberg, president of the Rochester Numismatic Association, after the dinner was over, made a little speech of welcome, then introduced Mr. Andrew Ludolph, a member of the Rochester Philatelic Association, as toastmaster. Mr. Ludolph at once took advantage of his position and told us all our bad points, forgetting to mention any of our good ones, so later on his title was changed to "Roastmaster." But it all added to the fun of the occasion and Mr. Ludolph was voted a great success.

The toastmaster introduced Dr. French, who was scheduled to make the presentation. The Doctor, in his own inimitable style, in behalf of the members of both Associations, presented Mr. Horstmann, manager of the Hotel Rochester, with a beautiful Egyptian scarabei, mounted as a scarf pin. Dr. French pleasantly explained to Mr. Horstmann that he knew his reason for wanting us to use the hotel for our meeting place was so that he might get a "bid" and an annual present at these affairs, and that the reason we asked him to attend was—we were following a precedent established long ago by royalty, and having the person present who prepared the meal and first taste of each dish to insure its fitness to be eaten.

Mr. Horstmann responded very graciously, thanking both Associations, and assured us of his pleasure in having us meet at the hotel in the future as in the past.

Mr. Harry E. Montgomery, of Buffalo, N. Y., was next introduced, and his

talk on "The Hobby Best Worth While" even surpassed his masterly effort of last year.

Mr. H. F. Ottley, of the Rochester Philatelic Association, was the next speaker, his subject being "Mints and Mince, Stamped"—and his talk was enjoyed as much by the coin collectors as the stamp collectors.

Last of the speakers, but not least, was Dr. Jeremiah Zimmerman, of the Syracuse University, who delighted his hearers and carried them with him on his "Excursions in Numismatics."

A rising vote was taken that an invitation be extended to Dr. Zimmerman and to Mr. Montgomery to be present at our next annual dinner and favor us with a talk on any subject they may select.

Letters of regret were read from Mr. E. H. Adams, Dr. J. M. Henderson, Mr. Howard Newcomb, Mr. Henry Chapman, Mr. Wm. Hesslein, Mr. E. H. Hawkins, Mr. C. F. Clark, Mr. Lee M. Clark, Mr. G. M. Hunter, and Mr. Geo. G. Emrich.

Much of the success of the occasion was due to the efforts of Mr. F. E. Merritt, the treasurer of the Rochester Numismatic Association, having been ably assisted by Mr. F. B. King, Dr. French, and Messrs. L. L. Allbright, H. J. Haddleton, W. J. Ballard and E. L. Stanley.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel Friday evening, January 8, 1915; President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Adams, Armstrong, Belden, Blake, Boyd, DeLagerberg Elder, Frey, Heaton, Higgins, Kennedy, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Wood and Wormser, and as guests Mr. David Shottick and Mr. Mabbott.

The Executive Committee recommended a change in the order of business, in consequence of which the paper of the evening was first read. Mr. T. L. Elder delivered a very interesting address on "A Plea for American Token Collecting."

Mr. Herbert Niklewicz was elected a member of the Club.

The subject of the next meeting will be an address by Dr. D. W. Valentine on "United States Fractional Paper Money—Civil War Period."

Mr. Swanson, in behalf of the Medallic Art Committee, recommended that a medal with the portrait of President Smith be struck in the near future.

Mr. DeLagerberg, in behalf of the Medallic Art Committee, submitted a report as follows on

"Medal Issues and Awards."

> At the first International Exposition of Inventions at the Grand Central Palace, New York City, a Gold Medal, the grand prize for the most meritorious invention, was bestowed by the jury of the American Institute on the Wappler Electrical Development Company for the Kymogenerator, a device for medical use. The second prize, a Silver Medal, was awarded to theWelte-Mignon Piano.
>
> Emperor Francis Joseph has conferred upon the American Minister to the Netherlands, Dr. Henry Van Dyke, the Red Cross

Medal of Merit for services in connection with the Red Cross Mission to the Dual Empire.

The Walker's Club of America has awarded its Gold Medal to J. H. Hocking, M. R. Schwartz and G. C. Trefry Jr., and Bronze Medals to Fred Lackemacher, G. C. Trefry Sr., and Frank Heath.

Gold Medals are to be presented by the National Institute of Social Science, January 15, to Miss Anne Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Eugene Brieux, Luther Burbank and Myron T. Herrick. The gold medal of this institute is called by some "The American Equivalent of the Grand Cross of the French Legion of Honor."

At the last annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, New York City, the John Fritz Medal was awarded to Professor John E. Sweet, honorary member and past president of the Society, "for his achievements in machine design and for his pioneer work on applying sound engineering principles to the construction of the high speed steam engine." This medal is awarded by the four National Engineering Societies.

At the Annual Members Exhibit, January 6, the National Arts Club has announced these awards by its jury: Gold Medal to Douglas Volk, Silver Medal to Emil Carlsen and Bronze Medals to Hobart Nichols.

Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels distributed, January 6, fourteen Bronze Medals of Honor to each of the Jack Tars of the superdreadnought Florida, "for extraordinary heroism in the line of their profession during the seizure of Vera Cruz, Mexico, on April 21, 1914." The quoted words are engraved on the reverse of each star-shaped Medal, also the name of the recipient and U. S. S. Florida.

King George has instituted a new decoration which is called the "Military Cross." It is of silver, and bears the imperial crown on each arm and in the center the letters "G. R. I." (George Rex-Imperator). Captains, commissioned officers of a lower grade, and warrant officers in the army who distinguish themselves in time of war are eligible to the "Military Cross." It takes precedence over all decorations and medals except the Victoria Cross. The London Gazette contains the names of about one hundred men on whom the new decoration has been conferred.

It is interesting to note that on the Panama Canal medals, issued by J. F. Newman, the figure of Columbia holds in her hands a scroll which bears an inscription in Latin, written especially by the late Professor Rudolf Tombo Jr. of Columbia University, for this purpose, reading: "Oceani inter se a Columbia coniunguntur" (Columbia unites the Oceans).

In connection with his report, Mr. DeLagerberg exhibited a Chinese Temple Medal representing the crest of Baron Asano, Chief Priest of the Temple of Miafema. In this connection, Mr. DeLagerberg mentioned that at the meeting of Australian Numismatic Societies held at Sydney on March 26, the Secretary, Mr. S. H. Mort, exhibited a tray of ancient Chinese Temple

Coins brought from Peking by the Australian naval contingent in 1900, and he also showed some pictures of Chinese and Japanese Temples.

The following appointments of committees were made by the President for the year 1915:

New York Store Card Committee: F. C. C. Boyd, chairman; Howland Wood, David Proskey, Bauman L. Belden, Thomas L. Elder.

Paper Money Committee: Dr. D. W. Valentine, chairman; David Proskey, George H. Blake, F. C. C. Boyd.

Publicity Committee: A. R. Frey, chairman; Wayte Raymond, Thomas L. Elder.

Curator: Frank C. Higgins.

Mr. Proskey gave some very interesting information in regard to the St. Gaudens designs.

The exhibits of the evening in connection with Mr. Elder's address were the following:

By Mr. Elliott Smith: Thirty-seven rare tokens in copper, brass, white metal, and glass in connection with the campaigns of Henry Clay, William Henry Harrison, Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren.

By Mr. Boyd: A series of tokens illustrating the tokens mentioned in Mr. Elder's paper.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Gold in California

It Now Seems Likely to Entirely Disappear From Circulation.

Among the extravagances of the people of California is the use of gold as a circulating medium, when an ample supply of paper currency, in practice redeemable in gold, is available.

A million dollars of gold in the vaults of a bank is ample security for the redemption on demand of three million dollars in paper. That is to say, for an expenditure of one million dollars in actual gold, we can get a circulation of three million dollars of currency as good as gold, and, for any considerable payment, far more convenient. And to persist in the use of gold as currency is, of course, extravagant.

The other side of the story is that by the use of gold as currency, we escape the danger of a depreciated currency from whose distressing consequences California alone of our states was entirely free during the Civil War and some years following it. It was the tradition established in those days which has maintained gold in circulation and would probably still continue it, were it not for the reserve banks.

But there is the additional cost of abrasion to be considered in the use of gold as currency, and this loss has to be taken account of. It would seem that the Government ought to stand the loss by ordinary wear and tear, and it does stand a certain amount of it. The statute provides that gold coin shall be received by the Treasury at its nominal value if its deficiency of weight does not exceed one-half of 1 per cent after a use of twenty years with a ratable proportion of allowable deficiency for a less number of years.

This means that the loss by abrasion must not exceed 50 cents on the $100

after twenty years, or 2½ cents per $100 for each year the coin has been in circulation up to twenty years. The Government will stand none of any loss resulting from illicit practices.

In practice, the loss by abrasion of gold coin in active circulation will exceed the Government allowance, which itself amounted to $250 per million for each year the coin has been in circulation. This additional loss the banks must stand, or the people. In practice, our banks have always been very lenient in receiving worn gold. Of that taken in each day, they carefully pick out the best to keep in their vaults and pay out the other. So does everybody else who thinks of it. In the vaults of the bank there is no abrasion.

It is understood, although we do not know that it has been announced, that the Federal reserve banks will neither receive nor pay out coins that will not be received at the Sub-Treasury at nominal value. That seems to be about all the foundation there is for the notion that the Federal reserve banks will put gold out of circulation. They will not put full-weight gold out of circulation, and, like other banks, will pay gold when asked for. They will presumably make customers ask for it.

The fact is, that all our banks desire to see gold go out of circulation, because paper is cheaper and will always bring gold when needed. Their dealings with the reserve banks, as with the Sub-Treasury, will be in full-weight gold. They are very likely to pay out paper unless gold is asked for. How much it will be asked for remains to be seen.

—San Francisco Chronicle.

The Fifty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the American Numismatic Society

Was held at the building of the Society on January 16, 1915, at 3:30 p. m. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Pryor. Mr. Belden read the minutes of several preceding meetings, which were accepted.

Mr. Belden then submitted the report of the Council containing the following information:

Mr. Charles Pryor was appointed on the Board of Governors in place of Mr. Daniel Parish, Jr., and Mr. Elliott Smith as member of the Council for the unexpired term of Mr. Charles G. Dodd.

In accordance with the change in the By-Laws creating memberships in the society as benefactors and patrons, the following were made benefactors: Mr. A. M. Huntington, Mrs. Henry E. Huntington, Mr. Daniel Parish, Jr., Mr. J. Sanford Saltus; and Mr. Charles Gregory was made a patron.

The total membership of the society consists at the present time of 371 members of all classes.

Mr. Browne submitted the report of the Board of Governors summarizing the exhibitions held at the society during the course of the year, reporting that 8,684 visitors had visited the collections, and that the S. P. Avery fund now amounted to over $8000.

Mr. Newell, in behalf of the Cabinet Committee, reported on the subject of accessions to the collections, mentioning especially the acquisition of the Swedish eight Daler piece, and the addition of a total of 7497 pieces since the last annual meeting.

Mr. Osgood Field, in behalf of the Library Committee, submitted the report of the Librarian, stating that 79 books and 276 periodicals had been added during the course of the year.

The report of the Treasurer, Mr. Pryor, was read by Mr. Belden, to the effect that the total receipts amounted to $14,250.83, and the total expenditures to $10,498.15, leaving a balance of $3,752.68, while the permanent fund of the society amounted to $6,350.29.

Mr. Browne then read an address to Mr. Pryor in appreciation of his many years of service as officer and Treasurer of the society, as his resignation was in the hands of the Board of Governors, and presented him with a very handsome gold medal in behalf of the society, which Mr. Pryor accepted with expressions of appreciation.

Mr. Newell, in behalf of the Committee on Ancient Coins, reported that the society's collection now contains 4000 specimens divided about equally between Greek, Roman and Byzantine, and pointed out the needs of a larger collection for study purposes as well as the needs of a larger library and some specific standard works on the subject. He also reported on books published by members of the society.

Mr. A. R. Frey, in behalf of the Committee on Foreign Coins, submitted a very complete report on all the new issues by Foreign Countries, during the year, as well as on all important auction sales of foreign coins held during the year.

Mr. John Reilly, Jr., read the report of the Committee on Oriental Coins and gave a summary of the coins of this field in possession of the society and pointed out its importance on account of the trade relations of our country with the Far East.

Mr. Wm. H. Woodin read the report of the Committee on United States Coins. It recommended the co-operation with the committee of the New York Numismatic Club for the purpose of improving the appearance of the United States silver coinage. The report also referred to an important discovery during the year by Mr. Waldo Newcomer of an eight scudo piece in gold dated 1742 with the inscription Brasher, N. Y., and counterstamped E. B., which brought up the question whether Ephraim Brasher operated a private mint in New York which turned out doubloons. The report also called attention to the discovery by Mr. Henry Chapman of a new variety of the pattern of the cent of 1792 with the inscription "G. W. Pt.," engraved by Thomas Birch.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Medals was submitted by Mr. Robert J. Eidlitz, who reported that correspondence had been carried on with foreign mints and producers of medals; that a large number of medals had been produced as the result of the European War, but that no auction sales had taken place since its outbreak. The efforts of the committee to influence the Government to reduce the duty on Medals had not been successful.

The Committee on Decorations, Insignia and War Medals submitted its report through Mr. J. Sanford Saltus, who reported on the additions to the society's collections, especially some United States Government War Medals. The report also referred to new issues of medals and orders, newly established by Austria, England, and Germany in connection with the War.

The report of the Committee on Papers and Exhibits, Mr. A. M. Huntington, chairman, gave a summary of the exhibitions held by the society during

the year as follows: United States and Colonial Coins; Paper Money; Mexico; Current Coins and Military Decorations of countries involved in the war. Set subjects had been considered and exhibitions held on the following subjects: Emergency Currency; Siege Coins of Europe; Decorations and Medals; United States Political Medals and Tokens.

Mr. George H. Blake read the report of the Committee on Paper Money, which referred to the exhibit covering the subject held by the society and its public influence, as the result of which there had been a large accession of Paper Money to the collection of the society. This collection during the year had been properly classified and mounted.

Mr. Newell, in behalf of the Publication Committee, reported that Volume 48 of the American Journal of Numismatics was in preparation and promised to have articles covering all the different fields of the subject.

The Committee on Publication of Medals reported that the issue of the Morgan Memorial Plaquette had been very successful, and that the supply had not been large enough to fill some of the inquiries.

Mr. Wm. H. Woodin for the Membership Committee reported that the active membership list was complete but recommended that the members of the society use every effort to increase the number of associated memberships.

The report of Dr. Geo. F. Kunz, chairman of the Publicity Committee, called attention to the difficulty of getting proper press notices during the past year, owing to the abundance of war news, but the effort to have exhibits of timely interest in connection with the events of the day had been very successful in producing publicity for the society.

Mr. Browne then read the annual address of the Board of Governors. In it he referred to the just pride which he had in the record of the society, and its continued growth from small beginnings until it was housed in a fine building of its own which should prove the mecca of all coin collectors owing to the splendid collections, and large library which the society possessed. He urged members to influence all people interested in the subject to make full use of the facilities of the society.

Chicago Numismatic Society

The 132nd monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held Friday, January 8, 1915, with President Kelly in the chair. The officers elected for 1915 were installed in office, except the censor, who was absent from the meeting.

The annual report of the secretary shows a membership list of 135.

Magazines received since last meeting: The Numismatist for January and Mehl's Monthly for January. Catalogs received: Henry Chapman's Sale for January 16, 1915.

Under exhibitions Mr. Brand showed a doubloon of Peru dated 1738, a Clark Gruber & Co. 1860 Ten-Dollar gold piece with view of peak, and a gold medal commemorating the centennial of the Independence of Chile, 1810-1910.

Mr. Baker showed fractional currency—2nd issue 25c and four 50c with inverted bronze figures on reverse and a 50c Spinner 3rd issue.

Adjourned to meet Friday, February 5, 1915.

M. P. CAREY, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 67th meeting was called to order Tuesday, January 5, 1915, by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, King, Bernstein, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Handler, Stanley, Bostwick, Harold, Koeb, Wild, Kingston, Borradaile.

Our new President thanked the members of this Association for their selection of him as President for 1915.

Mr. Merritt reported that all arrangements for our Third Annual Dinner had been perfected—same to be held at the Hotel Rochester on Tuesday evening January 19, at 7 o'clock, being empowered to promise an excellent menu, and stated that our committee was working with the Rochester Philatelic Association committee.

It was also announced that Mr. Andrew Ludolph of the Philatelic Association, who is also a member of the Rochester Bar Association, will act as toastmaster. Dr. Jeremiah Zimmerman, of the faculty of Syracuse University, has consented to address the members, his subject being "Excursions in Numismatics," and Mr. Harry E. Montgomery of Buffalo, N. Y., has selected for his subject "The Hobby Best Worth While." Mr. H. F. Ottley, of the Rochester Philatelic Association, will speak on matters pertaining to stamps.

Mr. Koeb, of the Medal Committee, reported that the work was progressing satisfactorily and that he would have with him at our next meeting a proof of the medal showing Mr. Bauer's portrait.

Publications received: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly, Philatelic West, Edward Michael Sale Catalogue, January 23, 1915.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, January 19, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Model Insect Money of Ancient China

(By R. A. Ramsden. 22 pp., illustrated. Paper. Jun Kobayagama Co., Japan).

This is the latest monograph by Mr. Ramsden on Far Eastern Numismatics, and is treated in the same able manner as his other detailed sketches on special subjects. Mr. Ramsden is in a position to write on the subject of Ancient Chinese Coins in the most authoritative manner, being near to his subject, conversant with the native writings, and having his own collection, which is the largest in existence, as a basis.

In this treatise he takes up a subject probably unknown to most students of Chinese numismatics, and discusses in detail certain queer shaped pieces as originating from natural objects, as the cicada or locust and the caterpillar of a certain beetle, and shows how the Chinese were the first to fashion any actual money from animal forms. We know that the Assyrians made weights in the semblance of ducks. The development of this peculiar style of money is shown and compared with similar shapes in stone used by the ancient Chinese to place in the mouths of the dead and with the scarab of ancient Egypt.

H. W.

A Coin of the United Provinces

By W. P. PIERCE.

The acquiring of a gold coin of the Netherlands issued during a period when the several provinces were united under the title of United Provinces stimulated my interest in the history.

The coin is gold and described as follows: Obverse, the device is a shield bearing the lion of the Netherlands, surmounted by a crown. The denomination, 7 Gl., is divided by a shield. The date, 1761, is above the crown. The legend is, CONCORDIÆ - RES - PARVA - CRESCUNT. The English translation is, "small things increase by concord." The obverse, the device is a horse and rider with drawn sword, below a small shield with lion. The legend is, MO: AUR: PRO: CONFŒD: BELG: HOLLAND. This is an abbreviation of MONETA AUREÆ PROVINCIÆ CONFÆDERATIONIS BELGICÆ HOLLANDIÆ, i. e., "gold money of Holland, province of the Belgic Confederacy."

Charles V, the eldest son of the archduke Philip of Austria, born at Ghent in 1500, educated in Flanders, inherited, on the death of his father in 1506, the Low Countries. In the autumn of 1555 he formally resigned to his son Philip the sovereignty of the Low Countries, Spain, and his other hereditary dominions.

In 1559, Philip II made his sister, Margaret of Parma, regent of the Netherlands, which position she filled for eight years, but it was impossible for her to reconcile the principles of Philip II and the instincts of the Dutch. She had some sympathy for the Dutch, and her relations with Philip II became desperate. On her retirement she went to Italy.

At once Philip II sent the Duke of Alva with an army of 10,000 veterans to suppress the revolt of the Protestants. He established the "Council of Blood," beheaded Count Egmont after a mockery of a trial, and commenced a reign of terror and sanguinary persecutions of persons suspected of heresy. He failed in subduing or pacifying the Dutch and was recalled in 1573. He boasted that he had put to death 18,000 persons in the Netherlands, besides those he killed in battle.

In 1573, John (Don) of Austria, son of Charles V and the beautiful Barbara Blomberg, was made vice-regent in the Netherlands. He was foiled by the Prince of Orange, William the Silent, in his political measures. His policy was such that his sudden death in his camp at Namur in 1578 gave rise to the general opinion that he had been poisoned by the Spaniards.

Alexander Farnase, a son of Ottavio Farnase and Margaret of Parma, succeeded his uncle, Don John of Austria, as governor of the Low Countries. He was one of the greatest generals of his age. The conquest of Antwerp

was brilliant. He created a party in the Low Countries in favor of the union with Spain. He was ill rewarded in being recalled in the midst of his career.

The Reformation made a deep impression and spread widely in the Netherlands, and Philip II determined to root it out. The result was a war that commenced with his reign and lasted for eighty years. It ended with the humiliation of Spain and the establishment of the Netherlands as one of the principal powers of Europe. Early in the struggle, at Utrecht, January 23, 1579, a union of the seven northern provinces, Holland, Zealand, Utrecht, Freisland, Groningen, Overyssel, and Gelderland, was formed. A recognition of this union by Spain concluded a twelve year armistice in 1609. The independence of the republic was formally acknowledged by the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. The prosperity of the young state was wonderful. It acquired possessions in America and the East Indies. It became master of the sea. It held the commerce of the world. Their achievements in the sciences and painting gained the admiration of all Europe. Its maritime supremacy received a final blow when in 1782 it declared war against England. When in the winter of 1794-95 the French army entered the territory, it was hailed by the patriots, and the Batavian republic was proclaimed May 16, 1795.

Acknowledged With Thanks

Clippings from Mr. Mayne Carter, Thomas S. Marvel, Dr. F. A. Hassler and W. P. Pierce. We are always pleased to receive clippings pertaining to any numismatic topic, but solicit mostly notes on any special variety or type that may be discovered by any collector. By passing along to other collectors information you gain you profit yourself as much as you help others.

Old Coins That Could Really be Broken

They had an ingenious plan for meeting a shortage of small change in the old days before copper coins existed, says the London Chronicle. Until the reign of Edward I the silver penny was the smallest coin minted in England, to the great inconvenience of the small purchaser of the period. But the difficulty was to some extent got over by the issue of pennies indented with a deep cross. The coin could then be broken into halfpennies and farthings. The first real copper coinage of England only dates from 1672, and until the time of Edward VI farthings of silver were coined, growing smaller and smaller as the value of silver increased.

Exposition Coins are Authorized

A memorial issue of gold and silver coins to commemorate the Panama Pacific International Exposition is authorized by a bill which passed the House on January 5. It already had passed the Senate. The measure would authorize the coinage of $50, $2.50 and $1 gold pieces, and 50-cent silver pieces. A part of the issue of gold $50 pieces would be after the model of the octagonal coins issued in California in 1851.

Half Dollars

1795	Two leaves under wings. Nearly fine	$ 3.00
1795	Two leaves under wings. Very good	2.00
1795	Three leaves under wings. Very good	30.00
1796	Fifteen stars. Fine	125.00
1796	Sixteen stars. Very fine	140.00
1797	Nearly fine. Skilfully plugged	11.00
1797	Good to very good. Nick on Obv.	20.00
1801	Good	3.00
1802	Very good	4.00
1803	Large 3	1.25
1805	over '04	1.50
1806,	'07, '08 Fine and V. F.	.90
1809	to 1814. Fine. Each	.85
1815	Practically uncirculated, mint luster	10.00
1815	Very fine	7.00
1815	Very good	3.00
1817	to 1836 Fine. Each	.75
1836	Milled Edge. Fine	2.50
1836	Milled Edge. Very good	2.00
1861	**Confederate Re-Strike.** Confederate Arms	10.00

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1795	Head type. Very good	$ 3.25
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1797	Fine	4.50
1798	Small Eagle, 13 stars. Good	3.00
1798	Small Eagle. Fine	5.50
1798	Large Eagle. About Unc.	6.00
1799	Six stars facing. Fine	3.00
1799	Mint luster	9.00
1800	Very good	2.50
1801	Fine	3.50
1801	Very good	3.00
1801	Good	2.75
1802	Perfect date. Very good	2.75
1802	Holed	1.25
1803	Very good	3.00
1803	Uncirculated, mint luster	15.00
1836	Flying Eagle. Brilliant proof	23.00
1836	Flying Eagle. Proof	20.00
1836	Flying Eagle. Fine	12.50
1836	Name below base. Magnificent brilliant proof	200.00
1851	Brilliant proof	125.00
1852	Uncirculated	110.00
1858	Brilliant proof	35.00

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An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

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The Hobby Best Worth While

By HARRY EARL MONTGOMERY.

Address before Rochester Numismatic Association.

A hobby is to happiness what fresh air is to health: an indispensible element. Without fresh air a man may for a time enjoy a certain degree of health, and without a hobby a man may for a time enjoy a measure of happiness; but for the possession of permanent good health fresh air is a prerequisite, and for the living of a full and happy life a hobby must be ridden continually.

"Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do," and "Show me how a man employs his leisure and I will tell you the kind of a man he is," are sayings so old and true as to have become commonplace. It is the hours of leisure that constitute the crucial periods of one's life. If, when the day's work is done, a man has no occupation with which to fill his leisure time, the demons of unrest and discontent will have a clear field in which to sow the seeds of unhappiness. If, on the other hand, when the day's tasks have been performed, a man can jump onto a hobby and, with enthusiasm stirring his blood, ride until the next day's work begins, what chance has discontent and unhappiness to find an abiding place in his life?

A "hobbyless" life is engaged in a constant warfare with all the forces which create unhappiness; while with a hobby a man is too busy to be unhappy and has no time for ennui and the blues.

While hobby-riding, a man does not stop when the hair whitens, the sight becomes dim, or the voice breaks into a childish treble, but, up to the last, keeps to the saddle like the old-time fox-hunting squire, and comes in at the death, mounted and equipped, and with a "Tally ho!" on his lips, falls into the awaiting grave.

Sir Martin Conway says that he "once knew an aged collector who was suffering all the ills that nature accumulates on the last years of some nonagenarians. His sight was feeble; he was deaf; he was often racked with pain. It seemed evident that his end was at hand. His days and nights had to be spent in an armchair, and each gasping breath seemed likely to be his last. To him entered a dealer of his acquaintance with a splendid K'ang Hsi Famille verte vase, which the old man had long wished to possess. The sight

of it revived his forces; his breathing cleared; he sat erect in his chair, and presently, in the excitement of bargaining, was upon his feet striding about the room; the struggle and the victory revived him, and he lived on for several years before death finally won him."

Have you ever watched the man with a hobby fondle and caress his treasures as a good mother fondles and caresses her children? If you have had that privilege you will have noticed the love and tenderness with which the collector regards his prizes and the happiness and gentleness which suffuses him.

The joy experienced by the rider of a hobby in the contemplation of his collection and through the glamor which envelopes possession, is an unanswerable proof of the usefulness and the blessedness of a hobby.

There are many kinds of hobbies being ridden today and each is capable of bringing happiness to its rider; among the hobbies ridden by men of average means are the collecting of postage stamps, of portraits, of autographs, of pottery, of books, and of coins and medals.

Those of you who have adopted any of these hobbies are to be heartily congratulated, and you who as yet have chosen no hobby and are contemplating the adoption of one, I would ask you to consider the relative values of these hobbies with a view to determining which one is best worth while.

Postage stamps are of a large value and of considerable interest in that they furnish much information regarding the progress of the various civilized countries during the last three-quarters of a century, and present the portraits of the rulers and tell the story of the changes of monarchs and of governments as well as record the chief events of each country's history. While their collecting widens one's knowledge of the history of the world in an easy and delightful manner, yet as they are records covering barely a hundred years, how much less of value are they than coins and medals, which record all the facts and present all the portraits to be found on stamps as well as give an epitome of the history of the world for nearly twenty-five hundred years before stamps were devised.

The collecting of portraits not only enables one to become acquainted with the features of the great men and women of history, but also stimulates the study of biographies, thereby enlarging one's knowledge of life and of the history of the world. It should be borne in mind, however, that portraits painted or photographed from life, with few exceptions, date only from the latter part of the middle ages and that most of the ancient wood-cuts, engravings and etchings are but copies made from portraits carved in stone or engraved on metal. While such a collection is of very great value it is inferior to a collection of coins and medals which bear the portraits of all the notable men and women whose photographed, etched or engraved likenesses are worthy of collecting, as well as the original portraits or hundreds of famous figures of past days which are to be found in no other place. Were it not for the coins exhibiting the portraits of Alexander the Great, and of his immediate successors, Ptolemy, Seleucus, Lysimachus, and Demetrius, as well as of the rulers of many ancient cities otherwise unknown to history, we would have no means of ascertaining how these monarchs looked.

If the collecting of photographs, wood-cuts and engraved portraits awakens within one an interest in the men and women whose features adorn the col-

lection, how much more must the collecting of coins and medals presenting portraits increase one's interest in the notables of the world as the number of men and women with whom one could thus become acquainted is so much greater?

The gathering of autographs is a delightful pursuit as it brings one into close and intimate touch with the lives of many of the great men of the past and enables one to penetrate beneath the outward dress-parade attitude of and through the masks worn by some of the chief actors on the stage of history. But do you realize that from the coins and medals issued by many of the rulers of the world you can learn much of the inner workings of their minds, their changing views on the questions of the day, their hopes and ambitions, and, in some cases, trace their mental and moral decay?

Have you ever examined the coins of Cleopatra, whose charms are said to have fascinated Julius Ceasar and Ruined Marc Anthony? If you have done so you undoubtedly have noticed how the beautiful young girl gradually lost the sweet, innocent expression and the soft, gentle lines on her face, until in the final portrait the Egyptian Queen appears masculine in type, with the lines hard, the lips voluptuous, and the expression cold, synical and repulsive. On the coins of Nero are clearly depicted the development of his abnormal tendencies and the gradual weakening of his mind, thereby explaining in a clear and unmistakable manner the reason for his inhuman conduct and ferocious acts.

A collection of autographs seldom contain letters or documents which reveal the tastes, ambitions or character of their writers, and such a collection would include only the writings of those who have lived during the last four centuries, while a collection of coins and medals will contain pieces which will furnish a clear insight into the lives of many distinguished characters of the last two thousand years.

To pottery we are indebted for much of our knowledge of bygone days, as these fragile materials illustrate to a remarkable degree the development of the artistic tendencies and the mechanical skill of all races from their infancy through the course of ages to the present time as well as reveal to a considerable extent the history, customs, mode of living, superstitions and religious beliefs of the various peoples.

Though a collection of pottery is an invaluable aid to the study of the lives, usages, beliefs and habits of men, yet a man of average means, on account of the large number and variety of specimens and the high prices of so many of them, is precluded from obtaining enough examples of any one series to be of any considerable value in tracing the evolutionary development of the human race.

On the other, hand, by the expenditure of a few hundred dollars a man may obtain coins and medals issued during the past 2,600 years, showing the development of the mechanical skill of the various civilized races and revealing many of the prevailing customs, laws, religious beliefs and habits of the people, as well as recording the movements of armies, the rewards of conquest, and the suffering of the vanquished, and even such incidents as the marriage of monarchs, the birth of royal children, and the illness of Emperors.

He also may secure Numismatic specimens noting the occurrence of epidemics, the sacred festivals and the games of the people, and portraying royal palaces, temples, alters, amphithcatres, forums, hippodromes, mausolea, sepulchres, aquaeducts, fountains, bridges, triumphal arches, obelisks, pyramids and other mighty magnificent works which have long since fallen into ruin.

Not only may he obtain imperishable records of these interesting and important historical matters, but in addition, pieces illustrating the development of art from its archaic state in the Seventh Century B. C. until its full splendor was reached in the dekadrachms of Syracuse, and thence to its gradual but rapid decline until at the time of the invasion of Rome by the Northern barbarians it becomc almost extinct; thereafter to revive in a totally new feeling, and to rise and fall with the changing conditions of life of the various people in all parts of the world, constituting the most complete series of original unaltered movements giving the history and characteristics of the great schools of art.

The collecting of books is a delight as well as a means of culture. The pursuit of a rare edition in old musty bookshops or at exciting auction sales is a pleasure most keen; but is not the same pleasure in all its degrees of intensity experienced in the pursuit of rare coins? And is not the pleasure enjoyed by the securing of a coin after a long, tedious, and prayerful waiting equal to that of adding to one's library a long-sought for book?

Books are indispensible to the cultivation of the mind; but are not the sources of many of the facts found in books recorded on coins and medals? And is not the student of Numismatics necessarily a student of books in all the fields of knowledge, and is not the collecting of books a part or section of the larger hobby of collecting coins and medals?

Any of these hobbies is well worth while adopting, but the collecting of coins and medals is the one which will enable a man to obtain practically all the knowledge, enjoy all the pleasure, and receive all the inspiration toward a higher mode of living that issues from the riding of any or all of the hobbies I have mentioned.

The charge that a hobby is an evil in that it narrows and darkens one's outlook in life through the sacrificing to one idea a broad and symmetrical development of the mind and the many graces of a catholic culture, loses its force when applied to the student of coins and medals.

For, as we who are riding this hobby well know, it necessitates the study of history, biography, geography, languages, poetry, art, architecture, metallurgy mythology folk-lore and religion; in fact, it embraces the whole sum of human knowledge which reveals, explains and records the life, activities, development and progress of the various races of mankind.

In order to find along life's pathway, peace, contentment and happiness, a man must adopt a hobby and ride it enthusiastically, and from a careful comparison of the relative values of the hobbies selected by men of average means I believe the fact will be revealed that the collecting of coins and medals is the hobby best worth while.

Siege Pieces of Pontefract Castle

As a side-light on the history of Pontefract, the money of necessity or siege-pieces and the tradesmen's tokens of the 17th century, are well worth the consideration of the local historian.

Whatever the circumstances, whether in times of war or of peace, money in some form is a necessity, and we can readily understand that the inhabitants of a citadel besieged, would have their time otherwise occupied than in any labor which would result in a cash payment; hence when the regal coin was spent, "siege-pieces" were struck in the castle.

In an article which appeared in the British Numismatic Journal, 1905, by Philip Nelson, M. D., on obsidional money, the following note is of interest:

"The Kingdom's Faithful and Impartial Scout."

Monday, February 5. Feb. 2-9: 1648-9.

"The intelligence from Pontefract is this: The besieged have lately made two sallies forth but repulsed without any great loss by us. In the last, they killed but one man of ours, and we took two of theirs prisoners, one of which had a small parcel of silver in his pocket; somewhat square. On the one side thereof was stamped a castle with P O for Pontefract, and on the other side was the crown with C R on each side of it."

These pieces were made of plate, which they get out of the country, and pass among them for coyn (sic). In 1644 Sir Gervase Cutler took in some silver to be coined, but none is known of earlier date than 1648. Charles I. was executed on January 30, 1649 New style. 1648 old style. Some of the siege pieces were struck before his death. One of these is exhibited. Obverse, a view of a castle with central tower, from which a flag is displayed; this tower separates the letters P C. (Pontefract Castle). To the right is a hand holding a sword erect; to the left O B S (for obsidional), below the castle 1648. The whole within a dotted circle. Reverse, within a similar circle a crown; below, G R; legend DVM: SPIRO: SPERO (while I breath I hope). Some are struck on circular pieces of metal; some on lozenge or diamond shaped pieces, and others on octagonal plans of irregular shape. On some of the lozenge shaped pieces the value is shown by the numerals XII. On these the hand holding the sword does not appear, and the "P" is above and the "C" below the numerals.

After the death of Charles I. another design was adopted, viz: Obverse a castle with central tower and flag, separating P C; to the right, the muzzle of a cannon appears; to the left, O B S, legend, CAROLVS SECVNDVS 1648. Reverse, similar to the previously described one.

The last issued was, obverse: Within a dotted circle a crown, below it, HANC DEVS DEDIT 1648; legend, CAROLs: II: D: G: MAG: B: F: ET: H: REX. Reverse: A castle with cannon projecting as last; legend, POST:

MORTEM: PATRIS: PRO: FILIO within a dotted circle and on an octagonal plan.

These specimens are rarer than those of Newark.

Coins for two shillings were struck at Pontefract on large lozenge shaped plans, with "hand and sword" to right of castle. Small points of difference, indicate varieties of dies.

Pontefract 17th Century Tokens.

With the conclusion of the Civil War, the issue of tradesmen's tokens became prevalent in almost all parts of the contry.

Eleven issues are named in Williamson's edition of Wm. Boyne's work. They are as follows:

Boniface Cooper, who issued two varieties, one having the town spelt POMTEFRACT.

George Daniel also issued two varieties, on one the town is spelt PONTIFRACT, and in the issue of these he had as partner Lee Hartley, who is individually responsible for three varieties of dies. George Daniel was responsible for tokens on which the town is spelt PONTEFRACT.

Thomas English had his initials on both obverse and reverse..

Timothy Feild had The Grocers Arms, as also had Robert More.

Thomas Hathornewhite has on his token a tree, as representing a hawthorn bush. There are two varieties of the obverse dies on tokens of Richard Lyle.

The token of "Isabel Oats" is one of the earliest, viz: 1649, and in the finest condition.

Joseph Wilson used the Tallow Chandler's Arms.

John Wither was host at "Ye Star Inn." On the obverse appears a "star" radiating; on the reverse, the Royal Arms, by which his political opinions may be determined.

With the exception of that of Joseph Wilson, a full series of the tokens is shown. They are all of Farthing size, and are of interest as recording local names and trades.

Springfield Coin Club

The Springfield Coin Club held their annual installation of officers at the Board of Trade rooms January 27th, the following members being inducted into office: President, John M. Oliver; vice-president, Charles W. Frazer; secretary-treasurer, C. M. Hinckley. It was paper money night and Mr. Oliver showed a collection of government shinplasters issued in 1862. An auction sale of gold dollars, coppers and paper money followed. There were 200 members present at the meeting and it was announced that the club has lowered its dues for the year in preparing to start a membership campaign. The present membership of 25 is double what it was a year ago and a large increase is expected this year.

A National Currency for Cuba

Since Cuba has become a republic the question of providing a national currency has been repeatedly considered though heretofore no satisfactory solution has been reached. President Menocal, however, has given this problem close study with the result that soon Cuba will have its own money, the contract having been awarded to the National Bank of Cuba, which will take care of the purchase of metals, coining, etc. It is said that for the time being the Philadelphia mint will execute the orders. Dr. Leopoldo Cancio, secretary of the Cuban Treasury, explains the situation as follows:

"It does not seem to me that there will be serious difficulties presented in carrying the law into practice and giving to Cuba a national currency. The work of Congress in the matter did not go into details, because, as I say, it depends almost entirely upon the coinage; there is need of regulation, and this cannot be perfected by the Executive until fixed details are arrived at which will insure the prompt transition of our present confused monetary system to the new order of things.

Methods of Transition.

"One of the most delicate problems of the new system will be the exclusion from the market of foreign money now circulating and its substitution by national money. The details of that transformation require operations of exchange which only bankers can perform satisfactorily, and the banks will accordingly be offered an opportunity to make proposals at public auction, as provided by the law. It is my intention, and also my obligation, to exercise the greatest care over measures that may be adopted by the banks, in order that the economic interests of the Republic may not be sacrificed to the spirit of lucre, and that the change to the new system may be fair and easy of accomplishment.

"We will endeavor to have the Government receive part of the new coinage, both of gold and silver, before the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1915, and even before the end of the next sugar season and before the beginning of the tobacco harvest. Great care will be taken that the old currency will not disappear before a sufficient quantity of the new is ready.

Money To Be Coined.

"The money to be coined will have on the obverse side the head of the liberator, Marti, and on the reverse the shield of the Republic. The silver money will be of denominations with which our Republic is already familiar, that is, 10 centavos, 20 centavos, 40 centavos, and one peso or dollar. They will have the same value as similar coins of the United States or of the same amount in American money.

Gold Standard Maintained.

"The new law respects the gold standard to which Cuba has held in her prosperous and adverse fortune to such an extent that the expert financier, Mr. Porter, who came to Cuba in 1898 to prepare the financial resources with

which the new regime was to begin, qualified as pathetic the history of the efforts of the producing classes of Cuba to sustain that standard. The executive proposes to adopt the necessary measures to maintain the parity of gold and silver money, as in all well organized monetary systems; for the purpose of and in conformity with the law, a reserve will be established in the Treasury formed from part of the profits of the coining of silver. Cuba will attain the object proposed by the authors of the new system by establishing its own monetary circulation, and will be free from the daily tax imposed by the Exchange on the different moneys in circulation, which renders unstable the value of labor and even domestic transactions of less importance, profiting by the gains produced by fiduciary issues. In the present regime the Spanish Treasury is benefited or has been benefited by the profits produced by the coinage of Spanish silver and copper, and the United States Treasury by the nickel and copper circulated among us. The profits of the new silver money will be more than 50 per cent of the nominal value, and a considerable part will be turned into the Treasury for the general obligation of the State, over and above what will be reserved as a guarantee of the circulation of silver and its parity with gold. The Secretary wants to lose no time, but to immediately put the new law to a test so that by April next the new currency will be in circulaion. The fears felt in financial centres of the world by reason of the European war make it advisable not to weaken the instrument which the new law places in our hand. . . ."

Moneys at Present in Use.

At present the moneys circulating in Cuba are as follows: The United States currency officially adopted by the State; the Spanish "Centen," $5 with the usual interest of 6 per cent; "Doblon," $4, with the same interest; and "Escudo," $2, with 6 per cent interest; the French "Louis," with equal value to the Spanish "Doblon;" and Spanish silver and copper. The rate of exchange on the above currency always fluctuates so that no fixed value can be given to any one in relation to the others that would hold for any appreciable time.

—Trade and Commerce.

A Noteworthy Collection Medals

A noteworthy collection of medals and badges is now on exhibition at the Maine Historical Society, Portland, Me. In the collection is the medal which was presented to Commodore M. C. Perry, special minister from the United States, by merchants of Boston in token of their appreciation of his services in getting the treaty with Japan signed at Yokahama, March 31, 1854, and with Lew Chen at Napa, July 11, 1854. On one side of the medal is a profile portrait of Commodore Perry, and on the other side is the inscription.

Another medal commemorates the inauguration of George Washington as the first President of the United States, in New York, April 30, 1879. One side shows an eagle with wings spread, and the other has a medallion portrait of the Father of His Country.

The medal given by Congress to Commodore Edward Preble of Portland in 1804 in recognition of his great services at Tripoli is among the collection.

Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome

Especially written for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

By SIGMUND KRAUSZ

Illustrated from Authentic Coins of the Period in the Collection of the Author.

Vitellius

69 A. D.

[This is the ninth of a series of twelve articles on the Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome. The tenth article will appear in next month's issue.—Ed.]

Aulus Vitellius, son of Lucius Vitellius and Sextilia, was born September 24 of the year 14 A. D. His family was an ancient and noble one, tracing their descent back to the time of the Tarquinians. He passed his early youth with Tiberius in Capri. His talents as a horseman made him a favorite with Caligula and being also well liked by Claudius, he was appointed consul in 48 B. C. through the influence of his father. Nero made him proconsul in Africa, which position he held for two years. When Galba became emperor he sent him as legate to Lower Germany with a view of eliminating him as a rival. However, the liberality of Vitellius, in contrast with the parsimony of Galba, soon made him a favorite with the troops, and, on January 3, 69 A. D., they proclaimed him emperor. His part was also taken by the legions of Upper Germany, Belgium, Rhaetia, Brittany and Lyons.

Galba having, in the meantime, been murdered and succeeded by Otho as the candidate of the Praetorians, Vitellius declared war against the latter and sent two armies under Caecina and Valens to Italy, himself following slowly with a third one. After having lost several battles, he defeated Otho at Bedriacum. The latter committeed suicide and Vitellius, in a continuous state of drunkenness and dissipation, slowly reached Rome with a straggling army, who followed the example of their leader.

Having assumed the throne, he defied Nero by right of his office as Pontifex Maximus and delivered himself to excesses of gluttony and drink and other prodigalities. He soon emptied the treasury and, though his government was otherwise marked by moderation, he forfeited the good will of the citizens. Vespasian, who commanded an army in Judea, allowed himself to be nominated emperor by his troops and the legions of Pannonia and Illyricum approving of the choice, the latter, under the leadership of Antenius Primus, marched against Rome. The legions in Egypt and Syria also de-

clared for Vespasian. Primus was successful in his advance against the Vitellian army, but Lucius, a brother of Vitellius, defeated the partisans of Vespasian in several battles. Flavius Sabinus, a brother of Vespasian, who had taken refuge in the capitol, was compelled to surrender, after the particans of Vitellius had set fire to the capitol and killed. Rome then became the scene of uninterrupted violence and bloodshed until the troops of Primus entered the city.

Vitellius, who had not abated his indulgences during the whole term of his reign, was dragged forth from a porter's lodge in the palace, where he had hidden and, after being insulted and roughly handled in the public streets, was cut down. His head was severed and his body thrown in the Tiber. His ignominous reign had lasted barely eight months, from May to December, 69 A. D.

The coinage of Vitellius, with the exception of silver denarii, is rare in all classes, especially in silver quinarii. First bronze, which is generally of fine fabric, while scarce in any case, is extremely so with certain reverses of which those with ANNONA AUG., HONOS ET VIRTUS, L. VITELL. CENSOR II, PAX GER. ROM., S. P. Q. R. OB. CIV. SER. and VICTORIA AUGUSTI are most highly valued. There is an interesting series of silver struck autonomously under Vitellius, the various specimens of which do not bear his portrait and are much rarer than those with his head. His portrait appears on gold and silver with the heads of his children and, one type, in gold and silver, with the head of his father, which is of extreme rarity. Second bronze, small bronze and Potin was coined for Vitellius in Alexandria, Ilum and Macedonia.

Philadelphia Dies Will Fashion Exposition Gold Coins

Octagonal-shaped $5 gold pieces will be among the souvenir coins to be struck off to commemorate the opening of the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco.

Although it has been provided by act of Congress that the special coins be struck off at San Francisco mint or on the Exposition grounds, the dies must be made in Philadelphia, as the Philadelphia mint is the only one in the country having facilities for this work. Workmen at the Philadelphia mint will fashion the dies within a few days.

Exposition Medals

Presses supplied by the San Francisco mint will coin the commemorative medal to portray the Panama-Pacific Exposition. The design will be made by Robert Aitken, the California sculptor.

January Coinage $1,236,000

Washington, Feb. 1.—Of the total coinage during January, valued at $1,236,000, reported by the office of the Director of the Mint today, $820,000 was in gold, the gold coinage being in half eagles. The mints coined $57,000 in silver and $361,000 in minor coin during the month.

Prices Realized at the Stephens Sale

The following are a few of the prices realized at the sale of the collection of C. R. Stephens, sold on January 30, by B. Max Mehl:

Brazil, 1909, 20,000 Reis. Unc.	$ 12.00
Chile, 1859, 10 Pesos. About fine	11.00
New Granada, 1839, 16 Pesos. V. good	19.50
England. Edward III. Noble. V. fine	11.50
Georgia, $2.50 Gold. V. fine	72.00
Carolina, $5.00. C. Bechtler, 140 G. 20 C. V. Fine	25.50
Carolina, $5.00, C. Bechtler, 134 G., 21 C. Fine	26.00
Carolina, $5.00, A. Bechtler, 134 G., 21 C. V. Good	21.00
1852 $50.00, 900 Thous. Fine	130.00
1853 $10.00. Fine	24.00
1855 $50.00, Wass, Molitor & Co. Very fine	352.00
1852 $5.00, Wass, Molitor & Co. Very fine	110.00
(1849) $10.00, Miners Bank. Extremely fine	175.00
1860 $2.50, Clark & Co About Unc.	21.00
1860 $5.00, Clark & Co. Extremely fine	21.00
1860 $10.00, Clark, Gruber & Co. Very fine	48.00
1860 $20.00, Clark, Gruber & Co. Very fine	600.00
1861 $2.50, Clark, Gruber & Co. About Unc.	20.00
1861 $5.00. Extremely fine	26.50
1861 $10.00. Extremely fine	26.00
1861 $20.00, Clark, Gruber & Co. Extremely fine	200.00
1849 $5.00, Mormon. Very fine	36.00
1860 $5.00, Mormon. Extremely fine	71.00
1907 $20.00, St. Gaudens. Extremely fine	26.90
1795 $10.00. Fine	25.00
1795 $10.00. Fine	27.00
1879 $4.00. Copper proof	20.00
1879 $4.00. Copper. Brilliant proof	21.50
1880 $4.00. Copper. Proof	21.00
1880 $4.00. Copper. Proof	22.00
1795 Silver Dollar. Nearly fine	3.50
1796 Silver Dollar. Small date and letters. Abt. fine	4.00
1797 Silver Dollar. V. Good	3.50
1798 Silver Dollar. Small eagle. V. Good	4.00
1836 Silver Dollar. Very fine	15 00
1839 Silver Dollar. Strictly fine	40.00
1858 Silver Dollar. Proof	32.00
1861 Silver Dollar. Dulled proof	3.00
1794 Half Dollar. Good	4.25
1836 Half Dollar. Milled edge. Abt. fine	2.50
1852 Half Dollar. Abt fine	2.35
1861 Confederate Restrike Half Dollar. Very fine	10.00
1804 Quarter Dollar. V. Good	4.25
1793 Cent. Chain. Very good	15.00
1793 Cent. Wreath. Crosby 8-F. Very good	82.00
1796 Cent. Strictly fine	4.60
1799 Cent. Very good	17.60
1800 Cent. Very good	2.10
1804 Cent. Very good	6.50
1817 Cent. Nearly Unc.	2.25
1856 Cent. Ex. fine	10.00
1858 Indian Head. Proof	5.00
Justinianus I. 527-565. AN. Solidus. Ex. fine	6.50
Honorius. (395-423). AN. Aureus. Ex. fine	6.00
Bergeron, Montreal. Unc.	3.00
Ontario. Toronto. Twopence. Strictly fine	10.00
Watson. Toronto. Unc.	2.70
B. 903, R 2½. Good for 1 RS. V. Fine	2.50
North West Co. 1820 Token for one Beaver Skin. Fine	31.00

New York Numismatic Club

Park Avenue Hotel, Friday Evening, Feb. 12, 1915.

President Smith presiding; the following members were present: Adams, Belden, Boyd, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Higgins, Jaegg, Kohler, Niklewicz, Proskey, Swanson, Valentine, Wormser, and as guests, Messrs. J. Schulmann, C. W. Swanson and H. R. Browne.

The meeting was opened by Dr. D. W. Valentine, reading an exhaustive address on "United States Fractional Paper Money—Civil War Period," embodying in it the report of the Paper Money Committee. The address was received with great interest, and a rising vote of thanks was extended to Dr. D. W. Valentine for his fine work and earnest effort.

A discussion then followed in which Mr. Proskey and Mr. Browne took part.

Mr. Proskey showed a sheet of the first "Currency Counterfeit Detector." He pointed out the effect which the Paper Currency of the Civil War had in ridding our country of all foreign money which previously had been current, owing to the hoarding of such money. He showed a very interesting and unusual collection of "shin-plasters," among them a 1c note of a brewery, a series of notes of cities and towns, some notes of the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Newark issued in 1837, for the redemption of which in 1862, $7,000 in gold had been set aside; also a 5c United States Fractional Currency, act of March, 1863, with the signatures of Colby and Spinner, and the green back reverse inverted. He also referred especially to the crude method which the Government had adopted to distribute the Fractional Currney, permits having been issued to individuals to receive different sums of such currency each week at the United States Sub-Treasuries.

Mr. Browne told interestingly how his interest had been aroused in collecting such fractional currency, and how he had obtained some valuable detailed information in regard to these issues from Col. Asa B. Gardiner when Secretary of the Treasury.

The Treasurer submitted reports for the year 1914, and the months of January and February, 1915.

Both Messrs. Schulmann and Browne were extended a hearty welcome of the Club by the Chairman, and responded briefly. Mr. Schulmann expressed great satisfaction at the lively interest shown by the members in the discussions of the evening, and stated that it quite surpassed anything that European collectors were capable of.

The meeting adjourned for the examination of exhibits.

By Mr. Proskey:

A collection of Fractional Currency and shin-plasters already referred to.

Oval shaped medal by Quelin. Bust of John Charles Fremont; Rev. Coat of Arms of California and allegorical female figure.

Medal of Mowbray—Clarke on Centennial of Treaty of Ghent 1814-1914; Obv. Peace betwen the British Lion and American Eagle. Rev. Two wrestling men "Last War between Brothers."

Java one stuyver 1800—Spielmark of Louis XV. Obv. Bust; Rev. Phoebus Apollo, in triumphal chariot.

By Mr. Frey:

Louis D'Or—Louis XV 1718 Mint Mark V for Amiens and small elephant, possibly the devise of the Mint Master or copied from the devise of the East India Co.

By Mr. F. C. C. Boyd:

1856. Flying Eagle Cent of pure copper.

By Mr. Niklewicz:

Transylvania Stephen Bathori of Poland, Nabybanya Thaler 1585—Austria two different 15 Kreuzer.

Schleswig-Holstein Christian VII 20 Schil. 1787.

Santiago Chile Peso 1817—South Peru-Cuzco 8 real 1837.

By Mr. Kohler:

Brazil 500 reis, new type 1913.

By Mr. H. R. Drowne:

A very interesting series of medals struck by Holland and France, acknowledging the Independence of the United States of America.

By Mr. Schulmann:

Rare pattern and regular issues of Netherland gold.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

NEW YORK NOTES.

It has recently been announced that Archer M. Huntington has given a site at Broadway and 155th St., New York City, to be used for its permanent home by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the National Institute of Arts and Letters, on condition that these societies would begin the erection of a building on the site within five years.

This news is of interest to numismatists, as Mr. Huntington has been a benefactor of the American Numismatic Society and actively and closely identified with its work, and as the site given to the Academy and the Institute adjoins the building of the American Numismatic Society. The proposed building being very near to that of the numismatic society as well as the buildings of the American Geographical Society and the Hispanic Society, will help to make the neighborhood a center of learning, art and science—an American Acropolis.

Mr. J. Schulmann, the well-known numismatist of Amsterdam, Holland, has recently visited the United States, and has been staying in New York at the Hotel McAlpin for the past two weeks. He sailed for home on Feb. 20th, after expressing himself as well pleased with his visit, and with the interest shown in numismatics by American collectors.

Mr. Elliot Smith, president of the New York Numismatic Club, delivered an address on Lincoln Medals before the public schools of New Rochelle, on Feb. 11th.

Mr. A. R. Frey, the well-known numismatist, delivered a lecture on "Coins and Coin Types" before the Men's Club of New Rochelle on Feb. 16th, and will deliver the same lecture before the Gaelic Society of New York early in March.

These interesting lectures will help to broaden public interest in the science of numismatics.

Chicago Numismatic Society

The 133rd monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held Feb. 5, 1915, with President Holmes in the chair.

There were sixteen members present.

Mr. J. Schulman of Amsterdam, Netherlands, was present as a visitor and was elected to corresponding membership. Mr. A. J. Williams and Mr. K. Roewade of Chicago were present as visitors.

Philip Randall Holmes, age one year two months, infant grandson of our President, J. B. Holmes, James Edward Michael, age three years two months, infant son of Edward Michael, and Walter Francis Carey, age two years and three months, infant son of M. P. Carey, were elected to active membership.

Mr. W. W. C. Wilson of Montreal, Canada, was transfered at his own request from active to corresponding membership.

Mr. V. M. Brand, Dr. Merrill and Mr. Wm. Evans were appointed membership committee for 1915, and Mr. V. M. Brand, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Ripstra were appointed medallic committee for 1915.

Magazines received since last meeting: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly for February and the Numismatist for February.

Catalogs received: Elders for February 5th and 6th, and United States Coin Co. for February 10th.

Under exhibitions Mr. Schulman showed a nearly complete collection of almost all proof condition coins of Netherland.

Mr. Holmes showed nineteen early dated $5.00 gold pieces.

Mr. Brand showed a 20 Excelletes piece of Ferdinand and Isabelle of Spain.

Mr. Noack showed several European necessity pieces.

Adjourned to meet Friday, March 5, 1915.

M. P. CAREY, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday Evening, February 2, 1915.

The 69th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association called to order, President L. G. Amberg presiding.

Members present. Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, King, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Stanley, Koeb, Wild, Putnam, Borradaile, Tillotson.

Report of the Dinner read and approved.

Mr. George G. Emrich of Fairport, N. Y., sent in his resignation.

Mr. A. J. Kaufman and Dr. D. J. Tillotson were elected to membership.

The chairman of the medal committee, Mr. Koeb, reported that the dies for the medal were completed. The secretary was instructed to get estimates from Whitehead & Hoag Company and from the U. S. Mint, and Mr. Merritt was given authority to see Bastian Brothers in regard to striking the medals.

Motion made and carried that the die of our First Anniversary Medal with portrait of Dr. French be presented to the Doctor.

Motion made and carried that an expression of thanks be sent to Dr.

Zimmerman, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Ottley and Mr. Ludolph, for their talks and efforts in making our last dinner such a success.

Motion carried that Dr. Jeremiah Zimmerman of Syracuse, N. Y., and Mr. Harry E. Montgomery of Buffalo, N. Y., be elected an Honorary Member of the Rochester Numismatic Association.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, February 16, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, February 16, 1915.

The 70th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association called to order by President L. G. Amberg.

Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, King, Woolsey, Plumb, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Kaufman.

The Rochester Numismatic Association presented to the Rochester Municipal Museum the following U. S. Cents, to better the ones now on exhibition: 1793, 1805, 1821, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1841, 1843.

Mr. Joseph Hooper, one of our members, and the oldest living member of the American Numismatic Association, will be 82 years of age on Friday, February 19th, and the Secretary was requested to send congratulations to him in behalf of the Rochester Numismatic Association.

Mr. Geo. J. Bauer had on exhibition a collection of the coins of the Twelve Caesars, in silver and bronze, and will read a paper concerning these coins at our next meeting.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

All Souvenir Gold Coins go to Exposition

T. W. H. Shanahan, superintendent of the United States Mint at San Francisco, in answer to many inquiries, submits the following synopsis of the recent act of Congress as it relates to Exposition coinage:

There shall be coined at the United States Mint at San Francisco not exceeding 3,000 gold coins of the denomination of $50 each; 10,000 gold coins of the denomination of $2.50 each; 25,000 gold coins of the denomination of $1 each, and not exceeding 200,000 silver coins of the denomination of 50 cents each, all of the legal weight and fineness. One-half of the issue of $50 gold coins authorized shall be similar in shape to the octagonal gold piece issued in California in 1851.

All Goes To P.-P. I. E.

The entire issue of $50, $2.50 and $1 gold coins authorized shall be sold and delivered by the Secretary of the Treasury to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company, at par. The delivery of said gold coins to begin not later than the opening day of the exposition.

The 50-cent coins authorized will be issued only on the request of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company, and will be delivered to it by the Secretary of the Treasury, at par, during the period when the said Panama-Pacific International Exposition shall be officially open—February 20 to December 4, 1915.

Souvenir Medals.

The 50-cent silver coins may be coined or finished at the Mint exhibit at

the Exposition. There may be also struck at said exhibit souvenir medals, which shall be delivered to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company.

All sales of the above mentioned coins or medals to the public or to any person will be made by the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company at such price or prices as may be fixed by the said company.

Full Weight Coins

The Federal Reserve Bank in the Twelfth District has laid down a rule regarding gold coin sent to the bank. This is due to the fact that with the issue of Federal Reserve notes the gold in circulation will be largely retired, and the problem of the loss in weight of the gold coin is one that has to be solved. The San Francisco Chronicle, speaking of the matter, says:

"Who is to pay the difference between the face value of a $20 gold piece and its actual value when weighed on the balances of the Federal Reserve Bank? That is the question that agitated the nine new directors, who called in Superintendent of the Mint Shanahan and United States Sub-Treasurer McGee to help. The abrasion of one double eagle may not amount to more than 10 cents, which is the limit of tolerance for twenty years' wear, and it has been found to be as much as $1.40 in some cases. But when this loss comes to be reckoned on the $8,000,000 capital and $30,000,000 reserve deposits of the reserve bank in the San Francisco district it assumes proportions that agitate.

"It has been the practice of banks in the East and Middle West to receive gold coin by weight, while banks here on the Pacific Coast took them in at their face value. The result has been that light weight gold coins have found their way West.

"When the banks of the West recently sent their first payment toward the $3,500,000 for the $100,000,000 gold fund, which was being collected in New York to ease the foreign exchange situation, the light weight came in issue. At the Sub-Treasury it was found that in one shipment from an interior city $8,000 of the $250,000 were light weight. Another instance came when a San Francisco bank received $600,000 in gold from Japan and forwarded it to Canada, where it was discovered that it was short weight to the amount of $600.

"The directors of the Federal Reserve Bank have decided to follow the Clearing-House rule of allowing one-half of 1 per cent for abrasion in twenty years of wear. But as proportional amounts are tolerated for each year the coin has been out, it will be necessary to weigh each coin separately, note the date, and calculate the shortage. How long this will take, or what the amount of loss will be which the depositing banks will have to stand, has not been estimated.

"Federal Reserve Agent Perrin says that all gold that does not come in mint sealed sacks will have to be weighed. After the gold has been received by the Reserve Bank it is probable that it will remain in its vaults, while paper money will take its place in circulation. The first shipment of Federal Reserve notes is now on its way from Washington to San Francisco. These notes will be issued in the process of rediscounting the commercial paper presented by the member banks."

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WHOLE NUMBER 64

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

APRIL, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

CALIFORNIA
GOLD SOUVENIR PIECES
FOR THE EXPOSITION

These are beautiful little souvenir gold pieces, typical Californian.

Sizes of gold dollars, gold half dollars and gold quarters.

On obverse: A female head facing to left wearing a helmet. Above, the word EUREKA; *below, the date, 1915. Stars on either side.*

On reverse: A bear, the emblem of California, walking to right. Above, the words CALIFORNIA GOLD, *and in center,* ONE. *Round shape.*

The Complete Set of Quarter, Half and Dollar size,
the set of three - - - - - $3.00

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NUMISMETIST

FORT WORTH
TEXAS

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher
301-304 Flatiron Building, Fort Worth, Texas

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Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, APRIL, 1915 No. 4

The Convention City For 1915

"Aim for a Greater Numismatic Association"

In the March issue of the Numismatist, the Official Organ of the American Numismatic Association, appeared an editorial and a communication from Mr. H. O. Granberg, Chairman of Board of Governors of the Association, who under the head of "Aim for a Greater American Numismatic Association" strongly advocated the holding of the 1915 A. N. A. Convention in San Francisco as originally decided upon at the Chciago Convention in 1911.

The NUMISMATIC MONTHLY heartily endorses the views expressed by the Numismatist and Mr. Granberg. It seems that the membership, if acting from an entirely unselfish point of view, could not do otherwise but to coincide with the views as expressed in these articles.

While the A. N. A. membership on the Pacific Coast is not as large as in the East, and even if from an attendance point of view the Convention should not be as successful as were the past few Conventions (this is hardly probable), even then the indirect good results to be derived for the Association by holding the Convention this year on the Pacific Coast cannot be denied.

It is true that a number of Eastern collectors who would otherwise attend the Convention will be unable to visit San Francisco. But why not be a little more liberal? Why not give the members of the West an opportunity to attend a Convention? The advertisement that the Association would receive by being listed among the various other Associations which will hold their Conventions in the Exposition city is alone sufficient cause for our Convention to be held there this year. We must not forget that the Conventions are not only held for the entertainment and good of those who are able to attend, but **for the good of the entire membership.** By changing its original plan of holding the 1915 Convention in San Francisco as originally adopted four years ago, the Association would be breaking faith with its Western members and foregoing a rare opportunity of advancing the interests of the Association.

It is therefore, to use Mr. Granberg's words, logical and desirable to hold the Convention in San Francisco this year.

Official Medal of the Panama-California Exposition, San Diego

We are pleased to reproduce a photograph of this interesting and artistic medal, being the Official souvenir medal of this Exposition. This medal is coined from dies prepared by Charles E. Barber, the chief designer of the Philadelphia Mint. The original sketch of Uncle Sam was gotten up by Clifford K. Berryman, the artist of the Washington Star who was the originator of the "Teddy Bear." He is reputed to be the best "Uncle Sam" artist in the country.

The reverse design was designed from an official photograph now in the possession of the Isthmian Canal Commission and represents the S. S. Ancon inaugurating the official opening of the Canal. The medal is the exact size of a $20.00 gold piece.

Commemorating as it does the completion of the Panama Canal by the United States Government, this medal deserves a wide distribution. Its price has been made very nominal, that of only 25 cents for the gold-plated specimen, and $1.00 each for the solid coin silver specimens. Orders may be sent to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas. Postage and registration is extra.

Copy of Act Providing for the Coinage of the Souvenig Coins and Medals for the Panama-Pacific Ezposition.

[PUBLIC—No. 233—SIXTY-THIRD CONGRESS.]
[S. 6039.]

An Act for the coinage of certain gold and silver coins in commemoration of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be coined at the United States mint at San Francisco not exceeding three thousand gold coins of the denomination of $50 each, ten thousand gold coins of the denomination of $2.50 each, twenty-five thousand gold coins of the denomination of $1 each, and not exceeding two hundred thousand silver coins of the denomination of 50 cents each, all of legal weight and fineness; said coins to be struck in commemoration of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. The words, devices, and designs upon said coins shall be determined and prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and all provisions

of law relative to the coinage and legal-tender value of all other gold and silver coins shall be applicable to the coins issued under and in accordance with the provisions of this Act; and one-half of the issue of $50 gold coins herein authorized shall be similar in shape to the octagonal $50 gold pieces issued in California in 1851; and the entire issue of said $50, $2.50 and $1 coins herein authorized shall be sold and delivered by the Secretary of the Treasury to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company at par, under rules and regulations and in amounts to be prescribed by him. The coinage shall be executed as soon as may be and the delivery of said coins to begin not later than the day of the opening of the exposition. Said 50-cent coins herein authorized shall be issued only upon the request of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company, and shall be delivered to it by the Secretary of the Treasury, at par, during the period when said Panama-Pacific International Exposition shall be officially open.

Sec. 2. That medals and diplomas, with appropriate devices, emblems, and inscriptions commemorative of said Panama-Pacific International Exposition and of the awards to be made to the exhibitors thereat, shall be prepared by the Secretary of the Treasury at the United States mint at Philadelphia and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, said medals and diplomas to be delivered to said Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company subject to the provisions of section fifty-two of the coinage Act of 1873 and upon payment of the cost of the material composing said medals or diplomas.

Sec. 3. That the 50-cent silver coins herein authorized may, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury, be coined or finished and issued from the machinery to be installed as a part of the exhibit of the United States mint at said exposition, and for the purpose of maintaining the exhibit as an educative working exhibit at all times the coins so minted may be remelted and reminted. All of said 50-cent silver coins herein authorized not issued to and at the request of said Panama-Pacific International Exposition, whether the same are coined as a part of said working exhibit or coined at the mint in San Francisco, shall be remelted upon the official closing of said exposition. All provisions hereof in regard to the coinage, finishing, or issue of said 50-cent silver coins from machinery installed as a part of the said exhibit shall be coined, finished, and issued under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be prepared a suitable souvenir medal (of such metal or composition of metals as he may prescribe), to be struck off by the machinery in said mint exhibit, and all of said medals shall be delivered to said Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company upon payment of the cost of the material composing the same, and all other souvenirs which may be coined, stamped, printed, or otherwise issued from any portion of the United States Government exhibit shall be delivered to said exposition company upon payment of the cost of the material composing said souvenirs, and said souvenir medals and other souvenirs shall be delivered to said Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company subject to such regulations as to disposition thereof as the Government exhibit board may prescribe. All provisions, whether penal or otherwise, of the laws prohibiting the counterfeiting or imitating of coins or securities of the United States shall apply to the medals, diplomas, and souvenirs provided for under sections two and three of this Act.

Sec. 4. That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to obtain suitable designs for the coins and medals herein authorized, and the sum of $5,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the cost of said designs: Provided, That the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Company shall reimburse the Treasury Department for the amount thus expended.

Approved, January 16, 1915.

Description of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Official Medal

By the Designer,

ROBERT AITKEN, N. A., SCULPTOR.

The obverse shows a winged Mercury, the Messenger of Heaven, the first of inventors, the furtherer of industry and of commerce, opening the locks of the Canal, through which passes the Argo, symbol of navigation. Upon her canvas the setting sun is reflectel as she sails for the west.

The quotation, "On! Sail on!" from Joaquin Millers' poem to Columbus, is used as a suggestion of the interrupted voyage made possible by the Canal. There is also the inscription, "To commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal, M C M X V."

Upon the reverse is shown the central motive, The Earth, around which are entwined two female forms suggesting the two hemispheres, holding in their hands cornucopias typifying abundance. These are so arranged in the design as to become one, the idea being that the Canal brings together the wealth of the world.

Below these flying forms is shown the sea gull, the bird of the Canal Zone. The inscription upon this side reads, "The Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, California, M C M X V."

This design was selected by the Government Exhibit Board, for which the designer received $1000.00. These medals are struck at the government's minting demonstration at the Exposition. They are struck in silver and bronze. The silver medals are struck .890 fine. The Mint objected to making them exact coin fineness. Their sale is conducted by the Exposition's Department Official Coins and Medals. Their prices are 25 cents for the bronze; 50 cents for the gold plated and $1.00 each for the silver.

The Official Souvenir Coins of the Panama-Pacific Exposition

Through the courtesy of Mr. Farran Zerbe, who we are pleased to announce has been appointed Chief of the Official Coin and Medal Department of the Exposition, we are informed that there has been considerable delay in the delivery of the dies for the souvenir coins and medals. They were first promisd for about February 20th, but up to this writing they have not been delivered. They will, however, undoubtedly be delivered shortly and the souvenir coins will be for sale immediately thereafter.

For the Official Souvenir coins to be issued by the Government for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition the following prices have been established:

One-half dollar, silver, $1 each. One dollar, gold, $2 each. Two and one-half dollar, gold, $4 each. Fifty dollar, gold (round and octagonal), $100 each. Complete set, one of each denomination, including both shapes $50.00 pieces, $200. None will be sold for less than these prices.

The issue of all denominations will be limited. We have reasons to anticipate that these coins will be fine medallic art products.

Orders will be filled in the rotation received. Just as soon as the coins are issued we will have them for sale at the prices established by the Official Coin and Medal Department. We will be pleased to receive and give prompt attention to all orders. Orders may be addressed, direct to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

Chicago Numismatic Society

The 134th monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held Friday, March 5th, 1915, with President Holmes in the chair and nineteen members attending.

Messrs. A. L. Henderson, O. Danielson and F. S. Mayer of Chicago were present as visitors.

A donation of fifty Masonic pennies was received from Charles K. Warner, Philadelphia.

Catalogues received since last meeting: United States Coin Co., Thos. L. Elder and B. Max Mehl.

Magazines received: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly and the Numismatist for March.

Under Exhibitions, Mr. Leon showed a $2.50 Bechtler, Georgia gold piece and a proof 100 Kroner gold piece of Francis Joseph of Austria.

Mr. Kelly showed a ½ Daler dated 1719 and a ½ Daler dated 1752, plate money of Sweden.

Mr. Brand showed a 2 Daler dated 1714 and an 8 Daler dated 1659 and weighing 32 pounds, plate money of Sweden; also a 2½ Shillings in gold of South African Republic.

Mr. Brand translated and read a very instructive paper on Swedish coins by Mr. T. G. Applegren of Stockholm, Sweden.

Adjourned to meet Friday, April 2nd, 1915.

M. P. CAREY, Secretary.

Special Meeting of the American Numismatic Society

A special meeting was held at the building of the American Numismatic Society on the evening of March 4th, at which Mr. S. Hudson Chapman delivered a very interesting lecture on "Magna Grecia, the Greek Cities of Southern Italy." The lecture described the result of his travels and explorations in Southern Italy and was beautifully illustrated by lantern slides.

There were also some slides shown of Ancient Coins issued by these cities, and of the ruins of Greek temples and monuments.

Prices Realized at the Dr. Millard Sale of Gents

The following are a few of the prices realized at the sale of the collection of Dr. Millard and other properties, sold on March 18th, by B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

1793	Chain. Ameri. V. Good	$17.75
1793	Wreath. Very fine	19.00
1793	Wreath, lettered edge. Fine	11.50
1794	H. 2. Fine	5.50
1794	H. 3. Very fine	16.50
1794	H.4. Very good	15.75
1794	H. 8. Very good	4.60
1794	H. 18. Nearly fine	3.15
1794	H. 22. Fine	4.50
1794	H. 24. Nearly fine	4.40
1794	H. 27. Very fine	48.00
1794	H. 29. Nearly fine	18.75
1794	H. 31. About fine	11.00
1794	H. 35. Very good	3.15
1794	H. 44. Good	11.50
1794	H. 45. Very fine	5.25
1794	H. 46. About fine	9.25
1794	H. 48. Fine	9.00
1794	H. 50. Fine	4.20
1794	H. 55. Good	6.50
1795	Lettered edge. Fine	8.75
1795	Milled edge. Very good	15.50
1795	Widely spaced date. Very good	8.25
1796	G. 10. Nearly fine	5.00
1796	G. 15. Extremely fine	14.25
1797	D. 100. Practically Unc.	11.25
1797	D. 104. Fine	5.25
1798	D. 135. Uncirculated	8.75
1799	over '98. D. 137. V. Good	24.75
1814	M. 2-E. Uncirculated	5.60
1839	over '36. 1-B. Very good	4.00
Hard Times Tokens. Low 66. Ex. fine		3.80
Low 81. Fine		6.75
Low 101. Ex. Fine		4.20
Feuchtwanger's Three Cents. Ex. Fine		3.40
1851	$50.00 Gold. Fine	155.00
1850	$5.00 Moffat & Co. Very fine	12.00
$5.00	Carolina. C. Bechtler at Rutherf. Ex. Fine	36.00
1814	$5.00. Fine	25.25
1871	$3.00. Fine	7.20
1802	$2.50. Ex. Fine	16.60
1865	Gold Dollar. Uncirculated	21.50
1795	Silver Dollar. Ex. Fine	5.50
1836	Flying Eagle. Proof	22.00
1858	Brilliant proof	42.00
1871	CC. Mint. Very good	25.50
1884	CC. Mint. Very good	5.40
1885	CC. Mint. Fine	11.50
1878	Trade Dollar. CC. mint. V. good	7.25
1852	Pattern $1.00. Fine	12.00
1883	Pattern Five Cents. Brilliant proof	10.00
1818	$5.00 Gold. Ex. Fine	15.50
1796	$2.50. Ex. Fine	75.00
1797	Cent. Unc.	14.25
1879	$4.00 Gold. Proof	75.00
1849	$5.00. Moffat & Co. V. Fine	8.60

Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome

Especially written for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

By SIGMUND KRAUSZ

Illustrated from Authentic Coins of the Period in the Collection of the Author.

Vespasianus

69—79 A. D.

[This is the tenth of a series of twelve articles on the Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome. The eleventh will appear in next month's issue.—Ed.]

Titus Flavius Vespasianus, a man of humble origin who by his talents and virtues obtained the throne of the Roman empire, was born near Rieti in the Sabin country as the son of Flavius Sabinus and Vespasia Polla, in the year 9 A. D. Having entered a military career, he held under Claudius a command in Germany and, later, in Britain, where he greatly distinguished himself. He also served in Thrace and Africa and was sent by Nero to conduct the war in Judaea against the rebellious Jews. He pursued the war with much vigor, reduced Judaea and finally laid siege to Jerusalem.

It was at this period that the struggles between Otho and Vitellius for supremacy took place in Italy. The Eastern legions who were indignant that the empire should be disposed of by the Praetorian guards at will, proclaimed him emperor and, after hesitating awhile, he accepted the honor. After the death of Vitellius he was acknowledged by the entire East, Italy and all the provinces. Leaving his son Titus in command of the army of Judaea and to prosecute the siege of the holy city, he repaired to Rome in 70 A. D., where he was joyfully received. Vespasian immediately set about to suppress all lawlessness and disorder and to restore normal conditions. He was a strict disciplinarian with his soldiers and, himself being a man of simple habits and tastes, he soon improved the finances of the state and did much, by his example, to lessen the effects of the luxury and prodigality of his predecessors.

One year after his arrival in Rome, Titus, too, returned from the Orient and father and son triumphed together for their conquest of Judaea. Although accused of parsimony and niggardliness in personal expenditures, he was lavish in embellishing the city with monumental buildings and temples and proved himself a patron of arts and sciences. Among his building achievements was the reconstruction of the Capitol, which had been burned during the Vitellian struggles, and the erection of the famous Temple of Peace which was dedicated by him in 75 A. D.

An excellent character picture of Vespasian is given by Suetonius, who wrote his biography, which contains many personal anecdotes about the emperor. According to these he was simple and unostentatious in his mode of life. He was too shrewd to listen to flattery of courtiers, but liked a joke and was good-humored and easy of access. As said before, he was somewhat avaricious and often obtained money by undignified means. To him is ascribed the famous "non olet" in relation to money, i. e. money has no bad odor. Occasionally he committed some acts of cruelty, but it was not often that this trait of his character showed itself. One instance may be recalled when, shortly before his death, he caused the execution of Julius Sabinus, who nine years previously had tried to assume the imperial power. This man was found hidden in a cave after a long search and Vespasian was cruel enough to include his wife in the death sentence. Vespasian died in 79 A. D. in his seventieth year.

He had been nominated consul nine times, imperator twenty times, and held the tribunitian power for ten years. His coins in all metals are common and only certain reverses in gold, first and second bronze are rare. Quinarii of gold and aurei restored by Trajan are also scarce, while the billon denarii restored by Gallienus are common. His portrait appears in the Roman mintage with Titus on gold, with Titus and Domitian in gold, silver and second bronze, and with Domitian alone in second bronze (coined in Ilium). Exceedingly rare is a type in gold and silver with the bust of Domitilla on the reverse. One of the most interesting coins of the Vespasian mintage is the first bronze with reverse JUDAEA CAPTA.

Denford Numismatic Society

COMMON COINS THAT ARE SCARCE—(Continued).

"One can hardly," said Hill, "say anything about the coins of Spain without mentioning those of Portugal and her Colonies. Portugal is only a small country, but her influence is felt in many parts of the world. Her colonies in Asia, Africa and America present a series of great interest to the collector. Her issues for Brazil, though common, are most interesting, and it is fortunate indeed when we find a series both interesting and cheap. Many of these coins were countermarked with the arms of Portugal, or figures showing a reduced value, and lots containing from a dozen to twenty pieces often sell for a few cents each. It is a kind of speculation when you bid on large lots, but I have often had a pleasant surprise when looking over them. Once, I remember, I nearly fainted when I found an eighty reis of Mozambique among a lot bought as coins of Brazil."

"That was some time ago, though," said Jennings. "You don't run across those little surprise packets these days."

"It was some years ago, though," answered Hill; "it came in a lot I got from the younger Frossard; but such things can happen at any sale. I remember I got two treasures some ten years ago—from a New York sale. In lot 50 I found a really good Kilkenny halfpenny, and in lot 70, I found among "Hindustan, native provinces; some oddly inscribed in English," a one anna of Patna Post, 1774. This lot cost me six cents each. There is hardly a catalogue

issued today that does not contain some good things hidden away in it, but you want to read between the lines to find them."

"When did this happen?" asked Jennings. "Can you remember the year?"

"Yes, I can tell you the year," replied Hill; "it was in June, 1904. But such things constantly happen—only this year I have had a couple of pleasant surprices—but I'm not sure it's policy to put you boys wise to my way of bidding; I'll have too much competition in future sales if I do.

"Then the different states and cities of Germany contain many interesting series. Among those issued for Augsburg, Brunswick, Goslar, Hildeshiem, Munster and others are many interesting types. The Virgin Mary is shown on the pfennigs of Goslar, and the crowned eagle adorns the grain tokens of Hildesheim. The wild man and St. Andrew form the principal types on coins of Brunswick, and if we may judge from the coins, St. Paul seems to have taken an especial interest in the affairs of Munster.

"The coins of Austria and her province issued during the eighteenth century are worth some attention. Those of Maria Theresa alone are enough to form a fair sized collection, and the workmanship shown on those of Francis, her consort, is far superior to the issues of today. It is hard to say, looking at their busts on the coins, which had the finest head of hair; in fact, if it were not for the legends, it would be hard indeed to say which was Maria and which Francis."

"You don't mean to say," exclaimed Blake, "that you would really have us all collect these common ten to twenty-five cent coins! I would not be bothered with them. What's the matter with our own series?"

"Nothing," replied Hill. "I'm not saying a word against our own series. If you wish to restrict your collecting to our cents, no one will try to stop you; but some people get tired of sticking to one thing all the time—and I'm now talking of interesting coins that are scarce—but common or cheap. The great majority of the collectors of this continent are not wealthy men. The best collectors I know are comparatively poor men; in fact, I never met yet a really well-to-do man who was what I would call a good collector. Why, it's nearly impossible for him to be one. To be wealthy, a man must be practical, cold-blooded and hard-headed. The best collector is the idealist, the man with some imagination. Such a man, looking at a bawbee of Mary, Queen of Scots, or a groat, or twenty penny piece of Charles I, will see beyond the mere type or date; he will see them fighting their way unconsciously to the block."

"Your ideas are all right," said Jennings, "but I cannot agree with your statement that the rich man lacks imagination. I was looking recently at the plate catalogue of the January-February Exhibition of coins at the American Numismatic Society building in New York. There are four specimens of the 1804 dollar shown on one plate, and it struck me as very strange that they seem, if one can judge from the plate, to be all from different dies. One must have a good imagination, and be an idealist, to invest in these gems. I'm afraid I must do without one unless business picks up—and content myself with a few Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont cents."

"I'll examine my 1804 dollars when I get home," said Hill, "but I fancy they are all from one die. Anyhow, I'll not buy any more for the present—but content myself with far cheaper and much more interesting coins."

Important Announcement

B. Max Mehl announces the sale at auction in April of the valuable Collection of Rare Coins of Mr. B. W. Smith of Redlands, California.

This Collection consists principally of United States Gold and Silver Coins of all mints, Cents and Half Cents, and a valuable Collection of Territorial Gold coins. It will undoubtedly prove the most important numismatic offering of the season.

The following is a summary of the extent and value of the Collection:

United States Gold

$20.00, 1851 to 1907, over thirty different dates and varieties.
$10,00, 1795 to 1907. 1797 small eagle, 1798, 1804, etc.; more than sixty different dates and mint varieties.

$5.00, 1795 to 1900; 1796, 1820, 1830, 1832, 1834 with motto. Many rare mint marks. One hundred different varieties.

$3.00. Practically complete, including the excessively rare 1875 brilliant proof.

$2.50, 1796 both varieties, 1797, 1806, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1829 to 1834; 1875 proof, etc., with rare mints; about eighty different varieties.

Gold Dollars, about complete, with many rare dates and mint varieties; all the rare 60's, 1870 S., 1875, etc.

Territorial Gold

California, $50.00 pieces, four varieties, down to the 25c gold; with representations of the principal issues.

Colorado, $2.50 to $20.00, including the 1860, 1861 $20.00 pieces.

Mormon, $2.50, and varieties of the $5.00, with a practically uncirculated specimen of the 1849 $5.00.

Oregon $5.00 and the exceedingly rare $10.00 piece.

Carolina, the different varieties of $2.50 and $5.00 pieces, including the excessively rare $5.00 with 150 G., Rutherford County.

Georgia, $2.50 and $5.00 and a Templeton Reid $2.50.

Five-Hundred Lots of Rare Gold United States Silver

Dollars: 1794 to 1904, all dates except 1804; including 1836 name below base and Trade Dollar of 1884. Branch Mint series practically complete.

Half Dollars: 1794 to date, 1796 both varieties, 1797; rare CC and S mint about complete.

Quarter Dollars: 1796 Proof, 1804, 1823, 1827. All other dates and mint marks.

Dimes: 1796, 1804, 1860 with stars.

Half Dimes and Minor coins about complete, including the 1802 Half Dime.

Fine Collection of Cents, all dates and principal varieties.

Half Cents, including 1796 and other rare dates.

U. S. Pattern coins, Fractional Currency, some scarce Colonials, etc.

The Catalogue

will be a beautifully illustrated edition with fine plates made direct from the actual coins and showing their actual condition. The catalogue will be distributed free to all former bidders of Mehl Sales. To those who have not heretofore bid at the sales or who are not on our mailing list, the catalogues will be sent without cost provided an order for the Price List of the sale, showing the amounts realized for each lot, is sent with the request for the catalogue. There will be no advance in price for the Price List of this important sale. The list will be supplied at only fifty cents.

Any special information regarding any coins in the collection will be cheerfully furnished upon request to the cataloguer, B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

New York Numismatic Club

Park Avenue Hotel, March 12, 1915.

Regular meeting was held Friday evening, March 12, 1915; President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Armstrong, Belden, Blake, Boyd, de Lagerberg, Elder, Frey, Hesslein, Higgins, Jaegg, Kennedy, Kohler, Nangle, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood, Wormser, and Messrs. Bonner and Sackett as guests.

Mr. Belden read a paper on "The War Medals of the Confederacy," first quoting an act of the Confederate Congress, approved October 13, 1862, providing for medals for officers and soldiers who should distinguish themselves, which medals were never issued. He then described the Davis Guard Medal presented by the women of Houston, Texas, to the defenders of Sabine Pass, Texas, who repulsed an attack of four gunboats and four thousand troops, on September 8, 1863, capturing two gunboats and about two hundred prisoners.

The fort was garrisoned by a company of forty-seven Irishmen, known as the Davis Guard, commanded by Lieutenant Richard W. Dowling, commonly known as Dick Dowling. But forty-one men were on duty at the time, six being absent on leave or in the hospital. Two officers, who happened to be in the neighborhood, assisted as volunteers. The medal was presented to the entire membership of the company and the two volunteers, forty-nine in all, on the first anniversary of the battle, September 8, 1864.

The next medal described was a bronze cross bearing the seal of Virginia, suspended from a clasp inscribed FOR VALOR, which was presented in 1903, by the Alumni Association of the Virginia Military Institute, to the surviving members, and families of deceased members, of the Cadet Battalion, which took part in the battle of New Market, May 15, 1864.

The third and last medal was the Southern Cross of Honor, given by the daughters of the Confederacy to all Confederate veterans.

This was first suggested in 1898 at a meeting of the Athens (Georgia) Chapter. The first distribution was made on the Confederate Memorial Day, April 26, 1900, at which time about twenty-five hundred crosses were given. Many thousands have been since distributed, but they are so highly regarded by their possessors that it is most difficult to obtain a specimen.

Specimens of the three medals from the collection of the American Numismatic Society were exhibited, together with an old photograph of the Davis Guard medal, a photograph of the statue of Dick Dowling, at Houston, Texas, and a badge of the Dick Dowling Camp, United Confederate Veterans, bearing a portrait of Dick Dowling and, instead of a ribbon, being suspended from a piece of an old Confederate uniform.

Mr. Belden also showed a similar cross of unknown significance, but undoubtedly connected with the Confederate cause. It has the inscription La Fourche—Atchafalaya—10 C. D.—Teche—Mississippi, and was apparently awarded to Dr. Honneur.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Belden for his extremely interesting address, and a discussion followed in which Messrs. Swanson, Valentine, and Frey participated.

Mr. Frank C. Higgins then delivered an address on "Ancient Mysteries and Occultism on Ancient and Oriental Coins." In his address he traced the

symbols appearing on Ancient as well as Oriental coins, back to a common origin in religious, mystic and cabalistic signs and rites. Mr. Higgins' address contained some very novel and original theories based on deep study and research and was illustrated both by diagrams and a great many of the coins themselves, and the material was entirely new to the average Numismatist. By vote of the Club thanks were extended to Mr. Higgins for his interesting address and it was resolved to have the address published in the near future.

The business meeting then took place, the roll being called and the minutes of the last meeting read.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a magazine, and of Mr. Cagiati's book on "La Zecca Di Brindisi." Also a communication from Mr. Fred B. Barden evincing his interest in Dr. Valentine's address. He also reported one resignation and two new applications for membership.

The Treasurer reported informally.

Mr. Frey, the Chairman of the Publicity Committee, submitted a report.

Mr. Boyd, for the Executive Committee, reported that the subscription price for the Elliot Smith President Medal will be $1.50 each.

Mr. S. H. Chapman will deliver an illustrated address, "The Greek Cities of Sicily," at the next meeting, April 9th.

Mr. Boyd, for the Publication Committee, reported that they have the minutes, reports of officers and papers read for the past fifteen months and that the year book for 1914 and 1915 will be ready for publication January 1st, 1916.

The Membership Committee reported receipt of the applications of Messrs. E. Beesley, F. Sackett and Dr. J. E. Gignoux.

Mr. Swanson exhibited the plaster cast of the obverse of the Smith Medal, which showed a striking likeness to the original.

Mr. Wood brought up the subject of the irresponsible reproductions and mulings made at the present time of rare coins and medals and the serious situation presented by the possibility of their being taken for originals, and causing fraud.

The Medallic Art Committee reported as follows:

The U. S. Government is striking the official medal in connection with the Panama-Pacific International Exposition at the fair grounds. The design on same is executed by the sculptor Mr. Robert Aitken. We shall have the pleasure of seeing photographs of the same, if not the medal itself, very soon.

The Handel & Haydn Society of Boston has recently issued a medal in bronze 2¾ inches in diameter in connection with its centennial festival; on the obverse portraits to the right of Handel and Haydn and on the reverse the adopted design of the society with suitable lettering.

The New York Numismatic Club is about to issue its third president medal. On the obverse is a portrait of Elliot Smith, with suitable legend, and on the reverse the seal of the Club. This medal promises to be much sought after, as it is expected the issue will be limited.

The medal of the International Rubber Exposition, held at Samarang, Batavia, Java, in 1914, designed by J. Wilnecke and one of the most wonderful pieces of die-work in the estimation of the committee to be found in Modern Medallic Art, is exhibited here tonight. The medal was sent to a member of this committee by the director of this exhibit.

The Secretary brought up the matter of the publication of the Club minutes and papers read before the Club.

The exhibits were as follows:

By Mr. Belden: Medals referred to in his address.

By Mr. Higgins: Coins and illustrations of his address.

By Mr. de Lagerberg: The Samarang Medal reported by the Medallic Art Committee. Obv. East Indian Goddess seated under ornamental arch with Chinese and floral decorations. Below "1914 Koloniale Tentoonstellung Semarang." Rev., Below coat of arms flanked by Fu dogs. Blank space within ornamental border; below "Semarang."

By Mr. Swanson: Photographs of the proposed commemorative medal of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Obv. a Winged Mercury opening the locks of the Canal, through which passes the Argo. "To commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal MCMXV." "On, sail on." Rev. the earth, around which are entwined two female forms, suggesting the hemispheres. Below, a sea-gull. Insc. "Panama-Pacific International Exposition. San Francisco, California. MCMXV."

By Mr. Frey: Burmah, set of the 1/3, 1/6 and 1/12 Rupees. Obv. Lion. Rev. Native inscription.

By Mr. Wormser: Transylvania Ducat of Catherine of Brandenburg.

By Mr. Proskey: United States $5.00 bill 1862, Essay for the first issue, the only one seen, showing on the left Statue of Columbus, of an Indian on the right, and in the center an allegorical group. Inscription, "The United States will pay the bearer $5.00 at the Treasury in New York, Washington August 1, 1862." Washington's death, gold medal. Brunswick George II 1733. ¼ Gold Gulden; ½ Thaler Gold. Obv. head to left; Rev. inscription.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 71st meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order March 2nd, 1915, by L. G. Amberg, President. Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, Ballard, King, Woolsey, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Handler, Bostwick, Koeb, Kingston, Borradaile, Tillotson.

Mr. Charles K. Warner of Philadelphia presented our Association with 100 varieties of Masonic Chapter Pennies, all in beautiful condition, these pennies to be placed with our exhibit at the Rochester Municipal Museum. A unanimous vote of thanks was given to Mr. Warner.

Mr. W. J. Ballard displayed a United States postal note dated March 4th, 1884, issued at Warren, Pa., for $1.00, in perfect condition.

A very interesting and able paper was read by Mr. Geo. J. Bauer, on the coins of the Twelve Caesars. Mr. Bauer had with him his collection of coins, in silver and bronze, and as each piece was described by him, it was passed around for inspection and comment, Mr. Bauer translating the inscription and interpreting what the letter, etc., signified as well as what event the figures and emblems represented. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Bauer.

Bastian Bros. submitted samples of our Third Anniversary Medal, in nine different shades and weights. An order was placed for fifty, which will be ready for delivery at our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, March 16, 1915.

The 72nd meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order March 16th, 1915, by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. French, Merritt, W. H. Amberg, King, Woolsey, Plumb, Bernstein, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Handler, Bostwick, Koeb, Wild, Borradaile and Tillotson.

Our third anniversary medal with portrait of Mr. Bauer, struck in silver and bronze, was ready for delivery. The finish of this year's medal is a lighter bronze color, making the portrait stand out in bolder relief and bringing out the obverse more plainly. Mr. Bauer was greatly pleased with the medal and took occasion to thank the Association for the honor conferred upon him, also to congratulate the Rochester Numismatic Association for having such a talented artist among their number.

Motion made that we present one of our Third Anniversary Medals to each of the following: The Amercian Numismatic Association of New York City, the Rochester Municipal Museum, and to Mr. W. R. Horstmann, manager of the Hotel Rochester.

Attention was called to Mr. Granberg's article in the March issue of the Numismatist, with regard to holding the A. N. A. Convention in San Francisco. The unanimous opinion of the members present was that the Convention be held in the East.

Mr. Bauer suggested that it might be the means of arousing interest in the meetings if each member would prepare a short paper on the particular variety of coin in which he was especially interested and well informed, to be read at some meeting—nothing at all elaborate, but simply a statement of facts, enumerating rare coins in the particular class of which he treated, etc.

Dr. French gave a very interesting talk on 1794 cents, starting in with No. 1 and following them through the Phelps sale and showing how they had increased in value when they were sold in the Gilbert sale, and explaining which were rare and unique.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday evening, April 6th.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

A. B. C. Mediators To Get Gold Medals

Gold medals will be awarded the "A. B. C." mediators for their services in bringing about an understanding in the "controversy" between the Government of the United States and the warring Mexican factions last year.

The House has authorized the President to present the medals to "the excellencies Senor Domicio da Gama, Senor Romulo S. Naon, and Senor Eduardo Suarez, which shall express the high estimation in which Congress holds the services of these distinguished sttaesmen and the republics which they represent, in the promotion of peace and order in the American continent."

The resolution authorizing this award was adopted in the Senate last October.

The amount of gold or any other metal ever coined in Paraguay is so small that it can with safety be entirely excluded from consideration. The very few coins of Paraguay origin outstanding are held as curiosities.

FOR SALE

PANAMA-CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION

OFFICIAL SOUVENIR MEDALS

[SEE ILLUSTRATION ON PAGE 50 OF THIS MAGAZINE]

Official Medal commemorating the opening of the Panama Canal. Dies for this medal prepared by Chas. E. Barber, Chief Designer, of the Philadelphia Mint

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1801	Perfect die. About good	.55
1801	Rare variety with IINITED	1.45
1802	With or without stems to wreath. Good	.35
1803	Small 3 in date. Very fair and good	.35
1804	Nearly good, date plain, small nick on edge	3.75
1804	Small break in die. Nearly good, date plain	5.25
1804	Small break over RTY. Nearly fine for coin, black and slightly rubbed surface	9.50
1805	Perfect or blunt 1 in date. Very fair to Good	.60
1806	Very fair to good	.60
1807	Perfect date. Very fair to good	.35
1807	over '06. About good	.45
1808	Scarce date	.85
1809	Good	1.75
1810	Scarce date	.35
1811	Rare date	1.65
1812	Small or large dates. Each	.35
1813	Scarce	.85
1814	Plain or crossed 4. Each	.55

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The SET of two notes in absolutely "brand new" condition for only $5.00.

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Indian head, date and stars.
Reverse, ALASKA GOLD ONE PINCH, all within a wreath.
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B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist **Fort Worth, Texas**

VOLUME VI. NUMBER 5
WHOLE NUMBER 65

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

MAY, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, MAY, 1915 No. 5

The Copper Coinage of the Chinese Republic

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By H. A. RAMSDEN, F. R. N. S.

Since the overthrow of the late Manchu dynasty, China has been making history, both political and numismatic. It is only the numismatic aspect which now concerns us and this to a limited extent, as we are to deal here but with the subsidiary coinage in the baser metal which has appeared in that country after the change from the old regime. It will be seen, nevertheless, that the copper coin issues of the Chinese Republic form one of the most interesting chapters in the lengthy numismatic history of that ancient nation.

The political upheaval of 1911, which culminated in the radical change of government, also brought along with it a complete alteration in its coinage. The old Imperial dragon, symbolic of the Chinese throne and which we had been accustomed to see depicted on all the previous provincial and government issues for that vast country, disappeared altogether and in its stead democratic and patriotic emblems took its place. Among these, the flags of the Revolution and the Republic are perhaps the most popular. As to the meaning and significance of these emblems, as well as the translation of the inscriptions which are not in English and the interpretation given to the other signs and symbols, they will all be fully dealt with and explained in their corresponding places further on.

But, like the political situation, the numismatic change is more apparent than real. The designs of the new coins show no originality or fresh departure from established and traditional custom. They still maintain a striking similarity to the previous Imperial issues, once shorn of their Republican attributes. Substitute the dragon for the flags and alter the wording of the inscriptions to correspond to the new state of affairs and we have the latest type of Imperial copper coins issued for general circulation by the baby Emperor Hsuang Tung during the last year of his short, abrupt and eventful reign. With each succeeding issue the resemblance to the old coinage is less pronounced, although continually present, but we still see the provincial issues copying each other or the coins of some powerful neighboring country such as Japan, Hangkong or Straits Settlements.

The copper coins so far issued since the establishment of the Republic may be conveniently divided into two classes:—

A. REGULAR ISSUES FOR GENERAL CIRCULATION,

B. PROVINCIAL ISSUES FOR LOCAL CIRCULATION.

The former need not necessarily have been issued by or even at the instance of the Central Government or minted at the Capital of the Republic, but their purpose, notwithstanding, remains the same, since they were meant to pass current throughout the country. The provincial series, which name they bear, were on the other hand no doubt primarily issued for local circula-

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

tion only, although perhaps some of them may have had acceptance outside of the circumscribed limits for which they were first intended. The commemorative pieces—if those with allegorical emblems can thus be styled—will be included in either of the above two classes; under the name of each province when such is stated, but when there is no such indication, they will be included in the Regular Issues, as it would be difficult to separate them, since they all bear more or less patriotic designs. The military series will also be included under the name of the province which issued them and which name they bear.

The list of the coins below enumerated does not by any means aspire to completeness. There are no doubt many in circulation today which are not included and others will no doubt continue to appear afterwards, as they are still being issued. The present article is more in the nature of a compilation

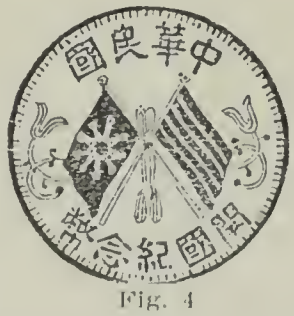

Fig. 4

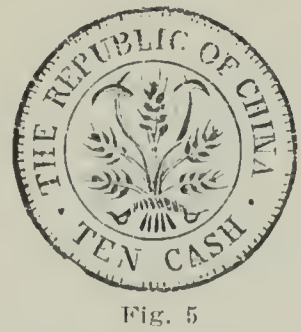

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

of those already chronicled in the "Numismatic and Philatelic Journal of Japan," inserted at different times as they reached this country, with the addition of some not yet mentioned in that publication. In every case the originals form part of my own collection and consequently both the illustrations and descriptions are as accurate as is possible, since the actual coins themselves served for this purpose.

As the number of copper Republican issues which have so far made their appearance is now considerable, and as the new general series intended for

use uniformly throughout that country may now be placed in circulation at any time, the present is regarded as an opportune moment to make up and publish the present list, giving, as well, a short description of each specimen. The present contribution may be considered as continuation of my monograph "Modern Chinese Copper Coins," published in 1910, and which dealt with the struck Imperial and Provincial series issued during the old regime.

All the coins mentioned below, with but one exception, are struck on round copper or brass planchets, sometimes over other pieces formerly in

Fig. 7

Fig. 8

Fig. 9

circulation either in China, Corea or conterminous regions. There is a cast issue, like the conventional brass cash with a hole in the center, just sufficient to show that China, although democratic and advanced, cannot forget the practice of over thirty centuries duration, during the entire period of which she remained faithful to this primitive method of coining.

No notice will be taken of minute differences in the designs, which, although they indicate different and separate dies, are not sufficiently pronounced to merit a special number accorded to them, but attention will be drawn to those instances where minor varieties may be expected. Errors, mis-struck pieces and other numismatic freaks, as well as imitations or forgeries, some of which are already met with in circulation, will not find a place in the list below. The errors in the manner of arranging the dies will be mentioned when such result to be the case and it will be understood that when a piece is said to be "inverse," it will refer to the dies having been

Fig. 10

Fig. 11

placed thus ↑↓ when the coin was minted, instead of in the ordinary position, head to head, ↑↑, which is usually the general practice with all the coins of China.

A. REGULAR ISSUES FOR GENERAL CIRCULATION.

1. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
   Obv. As Fig. 1.
   Rev. As Fig. 2.
   The two native characters in the center of the obverse mean "Ten Cash." The Chinese inscriptions on the reverse stand for "Republic of

China" in four characters above and "Opening of the Country Commemorative Coin" in five characters below. The flag on the left is the Revolutionary emblem, the colors under which the victorious sons of Han fought for their emancipation from the Manchu yoke and the official standard, which is today the official flag of the Republic, is seen on the right. The nine-pointed geometrical design on the former is perhaps meant to represent the Nine Provinces into which Ancient China was first divided dur-

Fig. 12

Fig. 13

ing the reign of the Emperor the Great Yu, B. C. 2205. The five stripes into which the Republican flag is divided, composed of the colors yellow, red, blue, white and black, are intended to represent the five races which go to make "United China"—Chinese, Manchus, Mongols, Thibetans and Mussulmans—gathered under the same fold.

These coins are supposed to have been minted at Wuchang. Various dies are to be met with, but all showing but slight differences, with the exception of the following:

2. As preceding, but the nine-pointed geometrical design on the left hand side flag on the obverse is incused instead of in relief, as is the case with the others of this issue.

Imitations have already appeared of this issue, but as the person who made the dies was evidently unacquainted with European characters, the legends in English result in a medley of letters without any sense in most cases, so that it is not difficult, for the foreigner at least, to immediately pick them out from the genuine specimens.

Fig. 14

Fig. 15

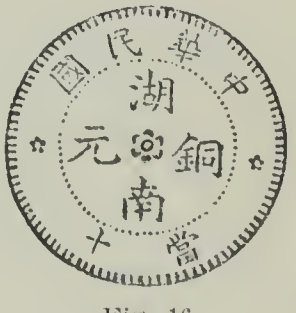

Fig. 16

3. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. As Fig. 3.
Rev. As Fig. 4.

The Chinese inscriptions are the same as in No. 1 and consequently these coins may also be considered as a Commemorative issue.

4. As preceding, but the obverse has a double circle, the outer one dotted, enclosing the central design, while the two words TEN CASH are nearer

to each other and the upper and lower English inscriptions are separated by two six-pointed stars instead of dots.

5. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.

   Obv. As Fig. 3, but there is a double circle as in No. 4, while the two six-pointed stars which separate the English legends are much bigger.

   Rev. As Fig. 4, but the characters of the upper and lower Chinese inscriptions are larger and more rounded. There are also other small differences, specially noticeable in the petals and leaves of the floral designs on each side of the coin.

6. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
   Obv. As Fig. 3.
   Rev. As Fig. 4, but the two flowers on each side have a greater number of petals and leaves. (This die is different to the one used for the reverse of No. 5.)

7. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
   Obv. Same as that of No. 4.
   Rev. Same as that of No. 6.

Fig. 17

Fig. 18

Fig. 19

The above coins, Nos. 3 to 7, are supposed to have been the product of the Nanking mint. Various different dies of both the obverse and reverse of this issue were apparently engraved and used indiscriminately, resulting in the above "mules."

8. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
   Obv. As Fig. 5.
   Rev. As Fig. 6.

   The Chinese inscription above is the same as in No. 1, but the lower one here reads "Value 10, copper Yuan." The Yuan is about one dollar silver, so that its value is ten cash. The chrysanthemum between the flags above on the reverse was evidently copied from the Japanese current coinage.

9. As preceding, but the third character from the right of the lower Chinese inscription corresponding to the value, is here changed to 銅, which is the same character as in the above, but written in a different style.

10. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
    Obv. As Fig. 7.
    Rev. As Fig. 4.

    The chrysanthemum on the obverse is still more in imitation of the Japanese coinage, as it is here rounded instead of oval as on the reverse.

11. As preceding, but the third character from the right of the lower Chinese inscription corresponding to the value is the same as in No. 9.

B. PROVINCIAL ISSUES FOR LOCAL CIRCULATION.

I. Fookien Province.

12. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. As Fig. 8.
Rev. As Fig. 9.

The flags on the obverse are the Revolutionary emblems on each side and the Republican ensign in the center. The devices and other symbols found on these flags have been explained previously (See No. 1).

The value inscriptions on the reverse mean "Original Coin Treasure of the Republic" in four characters grouped round the central star, while the six characters above signify "Made at the Fookien Copper Mint." The value inscription below of six characters reads: "Each one of this coin is regulated to the value of ten cash."

Fig. 20

Fig. 21

13. Two Cash. 24 mm. Brass.
Obv. As Fig. 10.
Rev. As Fig. 11.

The Revolutionary and Republican flags occupy the obverse with the two Chinese characters above and below the hole signifying "Two cash."

The four characters on the reverse grouped round the central hole mean "Currency of Fookien."

This coin, as well as the following one, is made by the old casting method, which antiquated process has been used in China since the beginning of coinage in that country many hundreds of years before Christ. The patriotic design on the obverse reflects modern conditions of China, since pictorial emblems have only been introduced of late years in imitation of foreign styles, while the reverse still maintains the old type of immortal cash with four characters grouped round the central hole, which is here round instead of square.

14. One Cash. 20 mm. Brass.
Obv. As Fig. 12.
Rev. As Fig. 13.

Same remarks as preceding, but the value here is "One cash."

II. Honan Province.

15. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. As Fig. 14.
Rev. As Fig. 15.

Both the flags on the obverse represent the Republican ensign.

This coin was issued but recently and it was perhaps not deemed advisable to continue placing the Revolutionary standard, which some call the Southern flag, side by side with the Republican ensign, which is sometimes called the Northern flag, after the second attempt to overthrow the Republican authorities at Peking, as the insurgents again chose the nine-pointed geometrical design flag as their emblem.

III. Hunan Province.

16. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. Same as Fig. 17, but HU-NAN above and the central ball a little larger.
Rev. As Fig. 16.

The translation of the native inscriptions on the reverse are: The four central characters, "Hunan Copper Yuan" (Dollar); the four above, "Republic of China," and the two below "Value Ten" (Cash).

Fig. 22

Fig. 23

17. Same as preceding, but the central flower on reverse is smaller.

18. Same as No. 16, but the central ball on obverse is concave instead of flat, with the corresponding raised rim to its outer circumference.

19. Same as No. 18, but "inverse."

20. Same as No. 18, but the central flower on the reverse is larger.

There are various other dies of Nos. 18-20, besides those above described, but as the differences in the design are small, no separate mention is made of each, the foregoing being the principal varieties that I have met with so far.

IV. Kiangsee Province.

21. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. As Fig. 17.
Rev. As Fig. 18.

The nine-pointed geometrical design on the obverse is the same as that seen on the Revolutionary or Southern flag and which is explained in the remarks to coin No. 1.

The translation of the Chinese inscriptions on the reverse is: The four characters in the center stand for "Great Han copper coin," while the value legend below composed of five characters reads "This coin is regulated to ten cash" and the inscription of four characters above signify "Issued for the Province of Kiangsee." The two side characters stand for the "year of the rat," i. e. 1912.

22. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. As Fig. 17.
Rev. As Fig. 19.

The Chinese inscriptions on the reverse mean: The four characters in the center, "Kiangsee copper coin"; the four above, "Republic of China," and the two below, "Value ten." The two characters on each side stand for the date, 1912.

23. Same as No. 22, but "inverse."

There are many varieties of the type of Nos. 21-22, the following being the most important that are to be found in my collection:

Fig. 24

Fig. 25

Fig. 26

24. Same as No. 21, but the central ball on the obverse is smaller.
25. Same as No. 24, but "inverse."
26. Same as No. 22, but the central floral design on the reverse is larger.
27. Same as No. 22, but the four central characters on the reverse are larger.
28. Same as No. 27, but "inverse."
29. Same as No. 27, but the central ball on obverse is smaller.

V. Kwangtung Province.

30. One Cent. 28 mm. Red copper.
Obv. As Fig. 20.
Rev. As Fig. 21.

The design on the obverse of this coin was evidently copied from the Straits Settlements copper cent. The meaning of the native characters on the reverse is: The four central characters mean "One cent copper coin;" the six character inscription above, "First year of the Republic of China," while the inscription below, of four characters, reads "Issued for the province of Kwangtung."

VI. Szechuen Province.

31. Twenty Cash. 33 mm. Yellow brass.
Obv. As Fig. 22.
Rev. As Fig. 23.

The large character in the center of the obverse, in the seal style of writing, means "Han," which refers to the name of the first Chinese

dynasty of this title which began in B. C. 206, from which epoch modern China sometimes dates its chronology, the present year, 1914, being the 2120th of Han. The Chinese inscription of six characters above signifies "First year of the Republic of China."

The four central characters on the reverse mean "Szechuen copper coin." The four characters above stand for "Issued by the Military Government," and the value legend below in six characters, reads "This coin is regulated to the value of 20 cash."

The above and the two following pieces are the subsidiary values in brass of a military series for this province, issued during the great revolution in 1911. There are higher denominations in silver, but which cannot be included here, as we are only dealing with the copper coins of that Republic.

32. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Yellow brass.
Obv. As Fig. 24.
Rev. As Fig. 25.

The inscriptions on this coin are the same as in No. 31, with the exception of the value below on the reverse, which in this case is "ten cash."

33. Ten Cash. 28 mm. Yellow brass.
Obv. As Fig. 26.
Rev. As Fig. 25.

The inscriptions are the same as in No. 32, with the exception of the date above on the obverse, which here is "Second year of the Republic of China."

There are many die varieties of Nos. 32-33, most noticeable in the formation of the large central character on the obverse, but none of them sufficiently marked to merit special mention.

H. A. RAMSDEN, F. R. N. S.

Yokohama, Japan.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, April 20, 1915.

The 74th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association, President L. G. Amberg presiding. Members present: Messrs. French, L. G. Amberg, Merritt, King, Bauer, Wild, Borradaile, Kaufman, Plumb, Yawger, W. H. Amberg.

Mr. C. C. Hollis, Sales Manager of Bastian Brothers Company, this city, presented the Association, for its collection at the Rochester Municipal Museum, a Maine Memorial Medal, struck in brass.

Dr. French read a paper on the overdates, errors, etc., of the United States copper coinage, having on exhibition his collection as examples. A vote of thanks was extended the Doctor.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, May 4, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

The Overdates of the United States Cents

Paper Read Before the Rochester Numismatic Association

By DR. GEO. P. FRENCH.

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I have taken for my subject this evening "The Overdates of the Cents of the United States," also the errors made by the early die sinkers, together with corrections of the same and also a brief reference to the mistakes that have crept into our coin catalogues. An overdate means a coin in which one date is punched over another. This is done on the die itself by the die sinker at the mint and has no reference to alterations made by unscrupulous persons on the coins after leaving the mint.

The first overdate I know of, appearing in the U. S. Cents, is seen in the year 1798. There were three old dies of 1797 used, and are known as D. 111-112-113. In 1799 we have the variety over 1798. 1800 gives us five varieties of overdates—two over 1798, one over 1799 and two over the unfinished die 179. The next overdate we have came in 1807. There are two varieties—large and small 7—the latter extremely rare. The 1809 die was punched over 1808. In 1810, one of the dies used was cut over 1809 and in 1811 one of the varieties was cut over 1810. One of the large dates of 1819 was cut over 1818. In 1820 again the die sinker used one die of 1818 and three of 1819. One large date 1819 and two small dates. I know of but one specimen over 1818. In 1821 a die of 1820 was used. I know of but one specimen, which is in the cabinet of our worthy ex-president of the American Numismatic Association, Dr. Henderson. A die of 1822 was used to make one of the varieties of 1823. In 1824 one variety is punched over 1822. Again in 1826 a variety was cut over 1825. One variety of 1833 was cut over 1831—only one specimen known of. One variety of 1839 was cut over 1836. There were a few mistakes made in punching dates, as in 1828, where a 2 was punched between the 8 and 2, and in 1844 over 1881 and 1851 over 1881—the 8 was punched twice in the last two cases and corrected immediately by the die sinker. These latter three should come under errors. There were a number of errors made by the early die sinkers; the first occurring in 1794. This is found in the variety known as H. 46. The regula or fraction bar was omitted. In 1798 an H was punched in the word Liberty for a B. This is seen with two reverses, known as Gilbert—Elders 9 and 10.

In 1797 there were two varieties of reverse cut without stems (D. 97 and 98) and a reverse with M cut over E in America. The letter reverse was used with two obverses, D. 108 and 109. In 1801 we have many errors. There are two varieties of 1/000, besides variety 1/000, one stem to wreath and H united, then we have the corrected fraction 1/100 over 1/000.

In 1802 we have the stemless wreath, again in two varieties, one with the final S in States cut double—one much too low. We also see the 1802 with reverse 1/000, which is scarce.

In 1803 we see the stemless wreath, but only one variety—the one with the perfect legend. There is also the rare die, 1803, 1/100 over 1/000.

I think, gentlemen, these are all the grave mistakes and corrections made by the die sinkers on the large copper cents. I have not taken in re-cuttings simply to strengthen the date or other part of a coin, nor did I touch on pointed nor blunt 1's, etc.

Some mistakes have crept into coin catalogues, as 1802 one stem to wreath and 1802, 1/100 over 1/000, also 1848 small dates—these, gentlemen, do not exist.

Tuesday, May 25th, 1915, Date Set For The Smith Sale

Owing to the extent of the Collection and time necessary to properly prepare the catalogue, the sale of the large and valuable B. W. Smith Collection of United States and Pioneer gold, silver and copper coins has been set for Tuesday, May 25th, 1915.

The catalogues have all been mailed out between the 26th and 29th of April, so that all who are on the mailing list of the cataloger should have received a copy of the catalogue before this number of the NUMISMATIC MONTHLY reaches them.

The Collection is by far the most important offered this season and one of the finest ever offered in this country. The catalogue is of over a hundred pages, listing in all over twenty-two hundred lots, of which more than six hundred are of gold. The Pioneer gold is one of the most complete offered, while the United States gold, silver and copper coins of all mints are practically complete. The most valuable pieces in the Collection are all reproduced on beautiful half-tone plates. There is also offered for the first time a very complete collection of the excessively rare Currency of the Republic of Txas. The different varieties of these rare bills are illustrated on a beautiful double-page plate.

Those who are not on the mailing list of the cataloger may secure a copy of this valuable catalogue by remitting fifty cents for a Price List of the sale. This List will be issued promptly after the sale and will show the prices at which each and every lot sold for. The catalogue and Price List may be had now for only fifty cents. After the sale they will cost $1.00.

Any special information regarding any coin in the sale will be cheerfully furnished by the cataloger, B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

The Official Souvenir Coins of the Panama-Pacific Exposition

We want to take this occasion to reply to our many readers who made inquiry and sent us orders for the Souvenir coins of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition that up to this writing the official coins have not yet been issued. In fact no definite date has now been set for their issue. They are expected, however, at any time, and as soon as they are delivered we will have a supply of them and we will offer them to our clients at the published prices—that of $1.00 each for the Half Dollars, $2.00 each for the Gold Dollars and $4.00 each for the $2.50 gold pieces. We hope to be able to offer these in the next issue of the NUMISMATIC MONTHLY and will give all orders our very best and immediate attention.

We now have and offer for sale the Panama-California Exposition Official Souvenir Medals in bronze and silver at 25 cents and $1.00 each respectively. Also, the California gold souvenir pieces for the Exposition in ¼, ½ and 1 Dollar size at $3.00 for the set of three pieces. All orders are received with the understanding that if they are not satisfactory they may be returned and the purchase price will be promptly refunded. Orders filled promptly by B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome

Especially written for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

By SIGMUND KRAUSZ

Illustrated from Authentic Coins of the Period in the Collection of the Author.

Titus

79—81 A. D.

[This is the eleventh of a series of twelve articles on the Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome. The twelfth will appear in next month's issue.—Ed.]

Titus Flavius Vespasianus, son of Vespasian and Domitilla, was born at Rome on the 30th of December, 40 A. D. Brought up at the court of Nero, he received an excellent education and physical training. At an early age he accompanied his father in his campaigns in Germany and Great Britain, where he proved his valor and qualities as a soldier. He was appointed military tribune and when Nero sent his father to Judaea, Titus received the command of a legion and captured the important cities of Tarshish and Gamalia in that province. On the elevation of Vespasian to the throne, Titus was entrusted with the sole conduct of the Jewish war, which he ended by the capture and destruction of Jerusalem. He was made imperator and returned to Rome, where he was enthusiastically received and shared the honors of a triumph with his father. He also became associated with Vespasian in the government of the empire. Giving himself up, at first, to a life of pleasure, and having committed some acts of cruelty, he was looked upon with suspicion and the Roman people began to fear the advent of a second Nero.

He succeeded Vespasian in 79 A. D. The first year of his reign was marked by the great eruption of Vesuvius, which destroyed the three cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Stabiae. The sinister expectations of the people, however, were soon dispelled when Titus grasped an undivided scepter. One of his first acts was to stop all prosecutions for "laese majestas," and the informers were punished in drastic manner, by being publicly scorched and sold as slaves. He repaired the ancient public buildings of the capital and erected many new ones, such as the Flavian Amphitheater or Colosseum, one of the greatest structures of antiquity, and the baths which bear his name. The Colosseum was dedicated in 80 A. D. with the most magnificent public games Rome had ever seen. They lasted 100 days. The same year, however, fire destroyed the Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus and many other fine structures. These calamities were followed by a dreadful pestilence and Titus

here showed his liberality in an eclatant way. He made lavish gifts to the sufferers and even despoiled his own palace to obtain money for their relief. From a supposedly dreadful tyrant, he now had become a public idol of his subjects, being called the "love and delight of the human race." Unfortunately for the Roman people, he became suddenly ill in the third year of his reign, and died on September 13th, 81 A. D., at the family villa in the Sabine country. His sickness was a short one and it was suspected that he had been poisoned by his younger brother Domitian.

Titus had been made by the senate PRINCEPS IUVENTUTIS in 69 A. D. and was elected consul eight times. The tribunitian power he held for eleven years. Although appointed imperator seventeen times, this title appears on his coins only as IMP. III, IIII, XIIII and XV. He held the censorship in 71 or 72 A. D. and was made Pontifex Maximus in 79 A. D. None of the coins of Titus are of extreme rarity and only certain reverses in gold or aurei restored by Trajan are scarce. The billon restitutions by Gallienus are quite common. A scarce silver medaillon shows him on horseback with the title Princeps Juventutis. Interesting, though not very rare, are his first bronzes of the type JUDAEA CAPTA, similar to those of his father. The rarest coin of this class is one struck after his death and showing the coliseum, a pyramid and a portion of the golden house. An extremely rare aureus of Titus is the one where his head appears with the bust of Julia, his daughter. This coin is also struck in silver, in which metal it is more common, but also very rare. With Domitian he appears only on colonial and imperial Greek coins, generally small bronze.

A. N. A. Secretary Honored

The numerous friends of the genial Secretary of the American Numismatic Association, Mr. Waldo C. Moore, as well as the entire membership of the Association will be interested to learn of the singular honor accorded Mr. Moore by the Governor of Ohio.

We clip the following from a Toledo paper:

"Lewisburg, O., April 8.—W. C. Moore, cashier of the People's Banking Company, has been honored by Governor Frank B. Willis by an appointment as trustee of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society of Ohio. Mr. Moore succeeds J. W. Harper of Cincinnati. His term will expire in February, 1918. He has already qualified for the position although the appointment was only made last Saturday.

"The new appointee is well qualified for the position, as he has taken quite an interest in archaeological lore for a number of years and frequently contributes articles for the 'Numismatist' on old coins and similar subjects. He is quite a coin collector himself and has a fine collection, which it has taken him years to assemble and at great cost. He has been Secretary of the American Numismatic Association for three successive terms.

"Several years ago he served on the assay commission of the United States government, which tested the fineness of the coins being minted at the Philadelphia mint."

Interesting Coin Collection Presented to the Old Congress Hall, Philadelphia

Frank H. Stewart, of Philadelphia, who has done so much to publish and cherish the history of the first mint of the United States, which was located on Seventh street, just north of Filbert, and who recently gave a collection of 150 coins to the museum of Old Congress Hall, Sixth and Chestnut, is going to celebrate the anniversary, on April 2, of the passage of the law to establish the first United States Mint.

A complete set of cents and half cents is in the collection referred to, also a complete set of half dollars from 1794 until 1832. Mr. Stewart recently paid $75 for the 1796 half dollar which was missing from his collection, and gave that with the others also.

Among these coins are many of the rarest known; a copper half-dime of 1795, probably the only one in existence; a Washington half-dime in copper of 1792, and a $5.00 gold piece design of 1803, also in copper. These three pieces were made of that metal for the purpose of testing the dies, and are, naturally, very rare.

Many rare Colonial coins, including the famous "Mark Newby" cents, are in the same gift. Newby came to this country from Ireland before Philadelphia was founded and settled in New Jersey. He brought with him some Irish pennies which in 1682 were authorized by the New Jersey Assembly as legal tender.

Pine and Oak Tree shillings, coined in Massachusetts in 1652, and the Pine Tree sixpence and twopence of the same date are also in the collection. The odd feature concerning these two coins is that they kept the date, 1652, for thirty years, to deceive the British authorities, who had declared the coinage of money in Massachusetts to be the right of the Crown alone.

An interesting contribution in the collection is the group of planchettes which it contains. These are the coins completed except for the designs stamped on either face. Mr. Stewart declares they are extremely unique and cannot be found anywhere else in the country.

There are about 150 coins in the collection, many whose value cannot be estimated. Mr. Stewart also supplied an expensive showcase to house them in.

A Correction

In a news item which appeared in the February number of the NUMISMATIC MONTHLY, it was stated that Dr. Hassler of Santa Ana, California, presented his entire collection to the Oakland Public Museum of Oakland, California.

We have since been informed by Dr. Hassler that the collection he presented to the Oakland Museum was only a portion of his large collection and that he still retains the major portion of his original collection.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held Friday evening, April 9, 1915, President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Belden, Blake, Boyd, Burke, Henry Chapman, S. Hudson Chapman, de Lagerberg, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Jaegg, Kennedy, Kohler, Kunz, Low, Proskey, Reilly, Ryder, Sears, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood Wormser; as new member Mr. Beesley; and as guests Messrs. Savage and White.

Mr. S. Hudson Chapman delivered a very instructive address on the subject of "The Greek Cities of Sicily." The address was splendidly illustrated by 186 lantern slides from photographs taken by Mr. Chapman himself, all in beautiful colors, giving a vivid idea of the splendid colorings of the Southern country.

In addition to the members of the Club, the lecture was attended by a large number of friends and guests, the attendance being about eighty.

After a brief historical introduction to his subject, Mr. Chapman took his audience through the following journey of Sicily, the following slides being of special beauty and interest:

Palermo with its fine cathedral of Norman architecture and Saracen battlements, and in its interior, tombs of the Kings of Sicily, then the Royal Chapel in Byzantine Renaissance art, the museum with its patios and cloisters and bas reliefs, one showing a quadriga as on many Sicilian coins. Next Monreale with its cathedral and its beautiful colored interior, and also splendid cloister. Then the ruins of the Temple of Segesta, the Temple of Selinus and the Temple of Hera. Coins have been struck to commemorate the drainage of the marshes of Selenos, the first quadriga coins, as old as 600 B. C. Then the Tomb of Hieron and the Temple of Hercules; next Gela (now Terranova Ragusa), with its asphalt mines, the upper and lower town, the Scalas, or stairways; and its Capucine monastery, in which the lecturer had most interesting experiences with its inhabitants. Then Syracuse with its beautiful coins showing the head of Arethusa, dolphins and quadriga, its amphitheatre, its catacombs, and the reminders of the history of the Athenian siege. Then Catania, the site of Naxos, the promontory of Taormina; Mt. Aetna with its wonderful snowy peak, and finally Messina and some very impressive views and experiences of this city before and after the devastating earthquake.

After the lecture, a short business meeting took place. After the roll call the reading of the minutes was dispensed with. The Secretary reported the receipt of two new applications from Mr. C. P. Frey and Mr. F. B. Bardon, which were referred to the Membership Committee.

The Secretary also reported the receipt of one magazine and the contribution to the library of the Club by Mr. F. B. Bardon of his own book on "The Public Schools of Madison, New Jersey," and "A Brief History of Chatham, N. J.," by Mr. Charles A. Philhower.

The Secretary reported the receipt of the President Smith Medals, and

announced as subject of the next meeting an address by Mr. H. Nicklewicz on "The Coins of Poland."

The Membership Committee submitted the names of Dr. J. E. Gignoux and Mr. E. Beesley for election, and the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot making their election unanimous. A rising vote of thanks was given Mr. S. Hudson Chapman for his very instructive lecture.

President Smith then expressed his thanks to the Club for the President medal given him, and his pride in having as a member of the Club such an able artist as Mr. Swanson.

The following were the exhibits of the evening:

By Mr. de Lagerberg: Glass impression of a medal of Eustachius Le Sueur, French painter of seventeenth century, designed by Adrien Hippolyte Veyrat, medalist and engraver, 1830-1876.

By Mr. Proskey: A series of Mormon 5c, 10c and 25c Bishop's general storehouse notes, 1897, 1898.—Newfoundland Department of Public Works, "Cash notes," 50c, 1901, and $1.00, 1902, printed by American Bank Note Co., all in fine condition. A set of five 1915 and undated Lucky Pennies, imitating regular issues on the style of Bryan Money.

Dollar in fine silver of Mohammed, the Mahdi of Soudan, 1302 A. H. Omdurman mint; type of regular 20 Piastres of Turkey. This type later usually debased with copper.

Silver Para (1/5 Cent) of Turkey, 1223; a coin so small and thin it will float on water.

Costa Rica "2 Reales, 1848, Habilitado," counterstamped on Louis XVIII 1817, Five Francs, with additional counterstamp "8" at left, for 8 Reales, believed to be the only specimen seen here.

Mexico, Pesos of Charles III, 1772, with mint mark "Mo" and the master's initials, "F. M." inverted.

Another size of 4 Reales, but inscribed "8 R," dated 1784.

Poland, Frederick Augustus, 1729, gold ¼ Ducat.

Franco-American Marques, 1729-'60, 16 varieties of date and mintage, and 2 Half Marques. Mints of Paris, Rouen, Rochelle, Lyons, Limoges, Bordeaeux, Montpelier, Dijon, Amiens, Nantes, Lille, and one "HB" monogram (?).

Wright & Bale's medal of Lafayette, reverse with Louis Philippe, copper proof with engrailed edge; also two smaller Lafayettes, one reverse eagle, the other "The Defender of American and French Liberty."

Two Greek Hemidrachms of Rhodes, with name of "Gorgos"—both from same pair of dies, a very rare occurrence, for when one does find one die the same on two coins, the reverse dies will be different.

By Mr. Wormser: Emden, two silver medals of the College of Forty, 1686 and 1789.

Patenberg Brenckhorst, Herman Theodore Ducat 1578.

Brunswick 3rd Bell Thaler.

Thalers of Eichstadt and Bamberg.

By Mr. Henry Chapman: One of the finest collections of New York State Notes, also a collection of rare Store Cards.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

FOR SALE

TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER

HANDSOME STEEL COIN CHEST AND COIN HOLDERS

(This is from the Smith Collection which will be sold at auction on May 25th. The chest and coin holders were inadvertently left out of the catalogue.)

Measures inside, 9 inches wide, 19¼ inches long and 3 inches deep. Was especially made to order by Mr. Smith at a cost of $25.00. Is constructed of the finest quality of chrome nickeled steel. Has three hinges, secure lock, and handles. Can be easily handled and makes an absolutely secure safe deposit box for the safe keeping of a coin collection or other valuables.

ALSO

Thirty-two (32) felt pad coin holders to fit the above cabinet. These pads are all made of good quality green felt with circular receptacles for the various coins. Spaces provided for the 25c to $50 gold; Half dimes to the dollars silver and all U. S. copper coins. No better device for the secure keeping of a coin collection could be planned. At either end of each pad there is a thin steel rod to keep it straight. These pads are worth on an average of from fifty to seventy-five cents each.

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VOLUME VI. NUMBER 6
WHOLE NUMBER 66

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
FOREIGN $1.00
SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

JUNE, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

301-304 Flatiron Building, Fort Worth, Texas

Subscription Price in United States and Canada, 50 cents a year; Foreign $1.00

Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JUNE, 1915 No. 6

The Official Souvenir Coins of the San Francisco Exposition

We are at last pleased to announce that the long waited for Official Souvenir Coins of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition are now ready for distribution. We have a supply of them and will be pleased to receive your orders at the Official PRICES:

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All the coins are full legal tender at their face value. These will be the first special coins to be struck at a branch mint. The issue of each denomination has been limited to expected distribution, and the premium prices established average decidedly less than asked for any previous special coins. The premium will be applied for general Exposition purposes.

The new Director of the Mint made his first official visit to San Francisco early in May, particularly in the interest of the Commemorative Coins. A special medal press from the Philadelphia Mint, weighing fourteen tons and with a striking capacity of 450 tons, has been received at the San Francisco Mint during May. From reports received, the sale of the Souvenir Gold Pieces will be quite a success.

Address all orders to B. Max Mehl, Post Office Drawer 976, Fort Worth, Texas. All orders filled the same day as received.

The Smith Sale

We can not help but feel that the general trend of conditions in the country are improving, at least if the results of the sale of the B. W. Smith Collection can be taken as a criterion. All previous records for the number of bidders represented and Price Lists of the Sale ordered to date have been exceeded at this Sale, and on a whole the entire collection commanded fair prices. On the more valuable and popular coins there was unusually spirited bidding. A more detailed account of this important sale will appear in the next issue of the Monthly.

We also wish to ask our readers' kind indulgence in our delay with this number of the Monthly. We can only offer the Smith Sale as the excuse for the delay and our promise to avoid delays in the future.

"Paper Fractional Money of the United States"

An Address Delivered Before the New York Numismatic Club by

DR. D. W. VALENTINE

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This address is, we believe, the most exhaustive ever prepared and published on the subject. It will prove invaluable to, and should be preserved by, all collectors interested in this particular series.]

Fractional currency is literally a part of the unit of exchange. It may be metallic, paper or of other material. Locally it is usually applied to U. S. Paper Fractional Money. Coins of denominations less than the unit are usually spoken of as "Minor coins."

In Colonial times paper money was issued that included denominations of units, multiples of units and fractionals of unit of current value. Previous to the Civil War there had been numerous issues of Paper Fractional Money issued by cities, banks, corporations, firms and individuals. These were not authorized by Congress, and were commonly called "shin-plasters." I have endeavored to obtain the origin of the term and will quote the definition taken from the Century dictionary. "1—A small square patch of brown paper usually saturated with vinegar, tar, tobacco juice or the like, applied by poor people to sores on the leg; U. S., hence, humorously. 2—A small paper note used as money, a printed promise to pay a small sum, issued as money, without legal security. The name came into early use in the U. S. for notes issued on private responsibility in denominations of from 3 to 50 cents as substitutes for the small coins withdrawn from circulation during a suspension of specie payments. People were therefore obliged to accept them, although very few were ever redeemed. Such notes abounded during the financial panic of 1837 and during the early part of the Civil War, 1861-65." The Standard dictionary gives a very similar definition, though it includes the Colonial period as well as that of 1837 and the Civil War. Our fellow member, Mr. D. Proskey, who has such a vast fund of numismatic lore, gave a definition as originating from "the fact that 'Post boys' and riders on toll-roads used to carry the toll fees in the top of their boot leg, so that the toll gatherer could get it with little delay." In my boyhood days of the early 70's I used to hear the term applied to the subject of this evening's paper, but it is evident that it originated long before the governmental issue of Paper Fractional Money.

Minor coins had been issued by the government almost continuously from 1793 in denominations varying from one-half cent to one-half dollar, but during the first years of the Civil War the issue was small and the branch mint at New Orleans was closed besides, the fear of the people had caused them to hoard the coins, thereby creating a disappearance of the greatly needed medium of minor exchange. To meet this need there came an unauthorized private issue of tokens, promises to pay, store cards, etc., made of various metals, vulcanite paper tickets or checks, good for bread, milk, meals, street car or ferry passages, beer, admission to the theatres, etc. Postage stamps were also used: as issued; in metal frames with mica fronts, or in envelopes with the value of contents, as well as the name or the individual or concern issuing such printed on the envelope. The government July 17, 1862, prohibited the issue of such tokens or store cards, but realized the necessity of some medium to take the place of minor coins. It has been stated that the

Treasurer, Mr. F. E. Spinner, obtained the idea of using postage stamps from Mrs. Spinner, relating how she had had difficulty in making change while shopping in Washington, D. C., and overcame the trouble by giving some postage stamps she had with her. It is claimed that Mr. Spinner stuck postage stamps singly or in multiples on Treasury paper and used them for exchange, also making arrangements with the Post Office Department to exchange soiled stamps when presented. As this was not legal currency and was but a poor substitute for it, Mr. Spinner developed the idea and presented the same to Congress. An Act was passed July 17, 1862, authorizing the issue of such currency, which was called "Postage Currency." This issue, at least, might be classed with "siege money," as it really was a "necessity issue" caused by the disappearance from circulation of practically all of the minor coins.

In 1861 the Federal Government issued Paper Money in multiples known as "Demand Notes," but the work was done by New York bank note companies, as the Treasury Department had no means of making the paper or printing the notes. The issue of postage stamps of this period was contracted for by the National Bank Note Company, so contracts were given to the National Bank Note Company of New York for making the bed-pieces, roll-plates and printing the obverse of this issue of postage currency, which had as a center design the reproduction of a postage stamp or multiples of same. The American Bank Note Company of New York received a contract for furnishing the paper, making the bed-pieces, rolls and plates, and printing the reverse of the issue. It may be of interest to state that an essay was printed which designated the specimens as "Postage Stamps," but the same has no engraver's or maker's name upon it, hence it is impossible to state just what it is. It has been rumored that the contracts were given to the two different bank note companies to act as a check and prevent the surreptitious or fraudulent issue of money. But as the companies were practically one, it would not reflect upon the companies but upon a possible wrong-doing employee.

It has been most difficult to get positive information as to which variety of the first general issue was the first issued; from such facts as I have gathered I feel positive that the perforated edge came before the cut edge, and it has been stated that the specimens with th "A. B. N. Co." monogram preceded the ones without it. This claim was based by the statement that the bank note companies, after the fulfillment of their contracts, turned over the plates to the government, and the government then erased the monogram on the reverse and issued a few sheets both perforated and cut edge varieties. I have considerable faith in the author of the statement, but regret that I have not as yet found corroboration; on the contrary, I find a letter from S. P. Chase to the President of the American Bank Note Company, dated May 23, 1863, which contains the following: "In my letter I had expressed the understanding that the dies, plates, etc., from which the U. S. Notes were printed belonged to the government and their custody subject to the direction of the Department. The reply of your predecessor controverted this position, etc.," also the extract from a letter from S. P. Chase to the President of the National Bank Note Company, dated May 28, 1864 "You are aware that I regard such ownership as against the right of the Department under the former

contracts with the two companies. As this was not conceded, etc." These extracts would indicate that the plates, etc., were not turned over to the Department, but there may be other or later proof that they were.

The paper used seems to have been of two kinds only, plain paper but of various shades. The inks were of two colors, but also of various shades. Plate numbers appear on the wide margin of the sheet. Some specimens show parts of letters or numbers of unknown meaning.

Some of the perforated specimens have had the edges trimmed, either without intent to deceive or to imitate a scarcer variety with cut edges. Another word of warning to collectors: mutilated specimens exist with large perforations crudely done and without doubt fraudulently done.

This issue is peculiar, as it is not really money, but a medium of exchange of postage stamps. It is "exchangeable for sums not less than five dollars and receivable for all dues less than five dollars." The only place that the word "Cents" appears is on the base line of one stamp, though the numeral or numerals of the denomination appear on both the obverse and reverse, though the word "Cents" does not appear by it. There is no "promise to pay" on any U. S. Paper Fractional Money, so they are not notes.

This issue is not signed as contemporaneous bills or later issues of the Fractional, and no Treasury seal appears on this issue.

The issue commenced August 21, 1862, and ended May 27, 1863, amounting to over $20,000,000. Our fellow member, Mr. G. H. Blake, found and loaned to me a copy of the report of S. M. Clark to the Superintendent of the Treasury, W. P. Fessenden, from which I will read a number of extracts and from which I have gathered proofs which compel me to revise my tabulations.

Extracts from "Report to The Secretary of the Treasury W. P. Fessenden from the First Division National Currency Bureau—by S. M. Clark, chief of the division, November, 1864."

"Origin of the division. This division had its origin in an attempt to trim and separate Treasury notes by machinery. This work, up to the Summer of 1862, had been executed by hand labor. The first paper issues of the Government, made necessary by the existing Civil War, were manufactured by the New York bank note companies, and sent to this Department in sheets of four notes each. After they were received here, the signatures of the proper officers were attached and they were trimmed and separated by hand labor with shears." "Futility of Treasurer Register to sign notes. Congress authorized employment of corps of assistants." (Statutes at large, Vol. 12, p. 313). "Economy and beter security to print signatures authorized." (Statutes at Large, Vol. 12, p. 346). Following which, a fac-simile of the seal adopted by the Treasury Department was designed, and the American Bank Note Company employed to make dies of same of three sizes. The demand for original dies was made and the American Bank Note Company refused to surrender them. The American and National Bank Note Companies of New York were practically one, a powerful monopoly."

"The production of the 'Postal Currency,' as it was then called, next engaged your predecessor's (Secretary Chase) attention. The price paid for it was largely disproportionate to the cost of the production. In his own language, 'though bearing no interest, it was the dearest loan.'

"Treas. Department,
"Bureau of Construction,
"Oct. 7, 1862.

"Sir:—

"I have the honor to report that I have matured the details for carrying out the Secretary's plan of supplying the place of the present Postage Currency, with a currency based on the issue of revenue stamps, as follows:

"Upon the Secretary's suggestion that the size of all the denominations shall be the same as the present 10-cent Postage Currency.

"The obverse of all denominations I would print in black, and the reverse in four different colors, say 50's red, 25's purple, 10's green and 5's tan color." (Then follows the list of machinery and labor to print 16,000 sheets daily.) "The engraving of the bed plates could all be done in the Department. * * * I have a design prepared for the Secretary's inspection * * * have made arrangement for trimming, separating and paper, cost of machinery, fixtures, etc.—packing, cost of pressmen printing, 75 cts. to $1. per 100 sheets.

"(Signed) S. M. CLARK,
"Chief Clerk Bureau of Construction."

"The Secretary adopted the report on the 10th of October, 1862, and approved the design. This design was made larger than the Postal Currency, viz., 2½x4 inches. I recommended the use of this size instead of the smaller size he had prescribed." Page 20 (following a report). "Upon this report he decided to adhere to the size originally prescribed by him, and the design be reduced by photography. It was unfortunate for the artistic merit, but it promoted economy and the cost was less than one-fourth of what the Postal Currency from the New York Bank Note Companies had cost." (See Note 1).

"A system (of checks upon production to prevent fraudulent issue) was prepared and submitted Nov. 7th, 1862. 'The paper will be made in the basement' paper room, delivered in quantities of even thousand sheets to the plate printing room in the attic, then deliver the paper to the pressmen in quantities of 500 sheets, charging them to the pressmen by name in a book prepared for the purpose with two columns—ruled for crediting the return of printed sheets, one for 'perfect' and the other for 'imperfect' sheets. Each pressman to be held strictly accountable for the sheets delivered to him, the charge to be cancelled only by the delivery in kind to the assistant Superintendent, not by payment; i. e., nothing but membrane paper will cancel the charge. All sheets torn, spoiled or otherwise spoiled to be returned—but to be entered in the 'imperfect' column. The receipts and burnings to be recorded in book 'Record of Imperfect Sheets.'" The Superintendent of Trimmers' division will count and compare the sheets, sign receipt, record the quantity and amount received in a book 'Record of Currency received from the Plate Printer.' After trimming, if damaged a sheet was delivered to the surface printer the same as a 'perfect' sheet, but placed on top of pile. Three days will be required for drying all surface printing. The Superintendent of the separating room receives them—keeps a 'stock package' of each denomination to exchange for 'imperfect' sheets, to ensure decimal delivery to the Treasurer and a simple check upon the packets. The 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents to be put in packages of $10, secured by a paper strap marked '$10' and the 50 cents in packages of $20 each secured by a paper strap marked '$20.' Five

of each of these packets, aggregating $50, to be banded together by a strap marked '$250.' Four of these $250 packages to be placed in a neat paper box (6 in. long, 5¼ in. wide and 3¾ in. high) and labelled on the top thus:

'$1000 Dollars United States Revenue Currency
$200 in 5 cents,
$200 in 10 cents
$200 in 25 cents
$400 in 50 cents'

and in this condition to be delivered to the United States Treasurer in locked up wooden boxes, by a messenger, etc., etc.

"(Signed S. M. CLARK, Chief Clerk in cherge.

"Hon. S. P. Chase,
"Secretary of the Treasury."

"The system remained under advisement for some time and eventually was returned to me endorsed as follows without date to the endorsement: 'The within system of checks and balances is approved. The currency to be called "Fractional Currency" instead of "Revenue Currency."

"'(Signed) S. P. CHASE.'

"The paper upon which the issues of the Government were printed, was a large item of expense and I had frequently reported to the Secretary the proprity and economy of manufacturing paper of a distinctive character in the Department. He was paying the New York Bank Note Companies $22.50 per thousand sheets for a paper inferior to that which I could buy in open market for $12. He directed an advertisement inviting proposals from paper manufacturers for furnishing the Department with paper and authorized me to make investigations and experiments to the manufacture of a distinctive paper in the building. We attempted to produce a paper evenly tinted in the fibre with a bright non-photographic tint which would not interfere with the engraving and could not be removed from the paper without destroying the fabric. All our efforts failed; we could introduce no suitable pigment which we could not chemically remove." (In report on bids to supply paper—which evidently refers also or wholly to paper for bills, as it alludes to "green tints" and green was not used except on 10 cents, 2nd issue Fractional, there is the first reference to "water marks," "all of which are inferior and badly done" Also the "silk threads" are mentioned.) "The most ingenious of the two is Mr. Haywood's straight threads in colors." (Most interesting, though, is the following.) "But since his (Mr. Homan's) reports was rendered, another bid has been received from Stuart Gwynn of Boston. This bid contains samples of most extraordinary character and excellence. The maker divulges to the Department his process of manufacture, which is different from anything I have heretofore known, and sound in principle. The paper possesses wonderful strength, is not permanently injured by soaking in hot or cold water, and the surface does not rough up by abrasion under the ordinary tests. It is too transparent for the green tint, and from its nature cannot be more opaque. The green tint proves itself to be no security. The St. Louis counterfeit $10.00 proves this, and the Treasurer's clerk tells me that among the bills coming to him to be split prior to burning he has found some with the green tint entirely gone. The samples No. 1 and 2 were not in the envelope; of the remainder I

prefer No. 4, at $16.00, but should prefer a lighter weight than the lightest one submitted, being 14-16-18 pounds. I think 10 pounds heavy and strong enough of the 'vegetable membrane' paper. I think it can be printed dry. The 'distinctive mark' submitted by Dr. Gwynn is ingenious and might be serviceable to the Department in detecting counterfeits, but would be of little value to the public, as it injures the paper.

"(Signed S. M. CLARK, Acting Engineer in Charge."

"I continued my experiments for the production of a distinctive paper—also to print dry. In an informal conversation with Mr. Chase, October, 1862, I alluded to my report last quoted and found he had never seen the report. After search it was discovered and read to him, when he immediately telegraphed Dr. Gwynn to come to Washington, and bring specimens of his paper with him. Dr. Gwynn came, and his visit resulted in a contract for the production of the paper in the Treasury building." (Extracts from contract with Stuart Gwynn of the City of New York. "He (Dr. Gwynn) does hereby convey to the Treasury Department the exclusive right to manufacture and use or control the manufacture and use of the said membrane paper. It is further agreed and understood that a secret mark shall be placed in the web of the paper so that one copy or impression thereof, shall be upon each note or stamp issued, of such size and device as may be directed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and that the paper shall be tinted of such color as may be desired without extra charge.

"(Signed) S. P. CHASE, STUART GWYNN."

"I soon found that Dr. Gwynn possessed great scientific acquirements. His first attention was given to tinting the fibre, but failed. In the course of his experiments he discovered a method of tinting non-photographically with a new and rare pigment, a fibre foreign to that used in the manufacture of paper but which could be introduced into and mingled with it in such a manner that no re-agent known to chemistry nor any method that he could devise would remove its non-photographic property without at the same time removing the fibre itself. This was the origin of the so-called 'spider legs' in the membrane paper, and which has been adopted as one of the distinctive characteristics of the National Paper now made in the Department."

"The first membrane paper produced was unsatisfactory, as the peculiar process of making, rendered it more liable to split than ordinary bank note paper. All bank note paper hitherto made would split more or less readily, but this proved more liable to split than any other, so its use was therefore abandoned." (Note: This would show that the so-called split fibre series should be listed before the fibre paper of the 2nd general issue.) "Experiments were continued with ultimate success and a paper produced which would not dissolve in hot or cold water, would not split, which had an immovable non-photographic tint in its spider leg fibre and took ink more readily, retained it longer and wore better than any paper manufactured for currency in any country."

"Dr. Gwynn was experimenting with dry printing, but was arrested under very strange proceedings of the officials, confined for thirty days, and unconditionally released. His disgust with such treatment caused him to have no further personal transactions with the Department except through his expert and attorney." Mr. Clark continued experimenting, and Mr. Chase in a

letter to a Committee of Congress dated June 3, 1864, stated that the "dry printing process" was "operating simultaneously and in daily use, producing dry printed impressions of unexcelled perfection and beauty." For amount printed to October 1st, 1864, see note 2.

(These extracts show that several different kinds of paper were used, that wet printing and dry printing were both used, that great economies took place, that radical changes were made in the design of the second general issue, and a bronze surcharge is first used. I have been unable to obtain information as to the significance of the surcharge on the upper corner or corners of the reverse. The value of each denomination appears for the first time, though the specimens are still unsigned and without seals; they are, as the first issue, "exchangeable for Postage Stamps, etc." Some (so called) proofs of this issue were made on water-marked paper, being the first water-marked paper used for "Fractional Currency." The entire issue was made at the Department from October 10, 1863, to February 23, 1867, and amounted to over $23,000,000.)

S. M. Clark in his report states: "To protect that portion of the public which will not protect itself by the exercise of ordinary diligence in scrutinizing paper money, the only course in my judgment when a counterfeit gets into the channels of circulation is therefore to make a new issue and withdraw the former from circulation."

Counterfeits of the second General issue were more numerous than those of the first issue and of much better workmanship; this, and the increased demand for fractional currency, necessitated the change of type and created two additional denominations, though one of these, the 15-cent denomination, was only made as an essay or proof (see note 3); the other, the 3-cent denomination, is the first and only one of such denomination in any issue and was only printed with green back. It is the only variety of this issue that has no signatures, though none have seals. The need of this denomination was eliminated by an Act of Congress March 3, 1865, providing for the coinage of a 3-cent coin in nickel. An Act of Congress May 17, 1866, providing for the coinage of the 5-cent coin in nickel prohibited the issue of any bill of denomination less than 10 cents. This general issue has two principal series. The first, known as "Green Backs," includes all the denominations; the second series is known as "Red Backs," the distinction being caused by the two colors used in printing the reverses. The second series does not include the 3-cent denomination nor the variety known as the 50-cent Spinner "new style" or "open back." These, the red backs, are the only specimens that have autographic signatures. Many specimens of different issues appear with signatures written across the obverse or reverse, and even above the regular signatures, but the only value they have when the signature is in a different location than that on the current specimen, is that of an autograph in addition to the market value of the regular specimen. The signatures of the present incumbents of office of Treasurer or Register in Fractional Currency, is simply an autographic value. The 5-cent variety bears the portrait of S. M. Clark, erroneously stated by a tabulator to be that of Gideon M. Welles. There was no law regulating whose portrait should be used, but the assurance of Mr. Clark in so using his portrait stirred Congress into passing an Act on April 7, 1866, prohibiting the portrait of any living person appearing on any notes or

bonds. Before this act was passed the Bureau of Printing and Engraving had the essay of the before mentioned 15-cent notes in preparation, but the act prohibited its issuance, hence it only appears in proof on separate obverse and reverse.

The "Red Backs" bear a number of different combinations of autographic signatures and are made of different papers and with various surcharges. In fact it is the series of the greatest number of varieties. One reason for this being the fact that they were printed with blank spaces for the signatures, some specimens being extant now unsigned, and as the change in the officials of Register and Treasurer occurred the new officials would sign some of these varieties. F. E. Spinner was Treasurer from March 16, 1861, to June 30, 1875; J. C. New from June 30, 1875, to July 7, 1876. The Registers were S. B. Colby from August 11, 1864, to September 21, 1867; N. L. Jeffries from October 5, 1867, to March 23, 1869; W. S. Rosecrans in 1880. The names of the last two appear on some notes, though they were not officials until after the issuance was supposed to have ended. The 25-cent denomination has the portrait of Wm. Pitt Fessenden, who was Secretary of the Treasury 1864-5. The second variety of the 50-cent denomination bears the portrait of F. E. Spinner.

Several kinds of paper were used—at least three—coarse fibre, sometimes called parchment; fine fibre, and plain paper. The coarse fibre is placed first, as the variety known as the 50-cent Justice Red Back appears only in coarse fibre with the surcharge on the corners of reverse "S-2-6-4," and the signatures are Colby and Spinner. Note: The "S" cannot indicate the month, as the issue did not commence until December.

The inks are black on obverse and red on the reverse of one series and green on the reverse of other series. Surcharges also appear on the 10, 25 and 50-cent denominations. The surcharges noted are "S-2-6-4," "A-2-6-5" and "M-2-6-5" on reverse corners, and two solid bronze ovals appear on the obverse of the 50-cent denominations and on only the coarse fibre paper variety of the 25-cent Green back variety.

There are also appear what might be classed as "location marks" on some varieties. The 5-cent denomination has a small letter "a," the 10-cent denomination has a small numeral "1," the 25-cent denomination has a small letter "a," and the 50-cent denomination has a small numeral "1" and a small letter "a" either combined or singly. These appear on the left side of specimen, either half way down or near the left lower quarter corner. They have been incorrectly called "plate numbers" or "plate letters," as they only appear on specimens on the left edge row of a sheet or top row of a sheet and the combination "1 a" always on the upper left corner specimen of a sheet. The issuances of the General issue seem to overlap, but no reason has been found for their so doing. This series was all done at the Bureau of Printing and engraving, beginning December 5, 1864, and ending April 16, 1869, and amounting to over $86,000,000.

With the fourth General issue we find further improvements. The Treasury seal is impressed on all varieties for the first time. The 10-cent note is the only one which mentions Postage Stamps. The work is more artistic and symbolic. The 10-cent denomination is known as the "10-cent Liberty" from the engraved bust of female figure. The 15-cent denomination is known as the "15-cent Columbia" from the engraved bust of female figure also on ob-

verse. The 25-cent denomination is known as the "25-cent Washington 4th issue." The 50-cent denomination has three varieties, one having the bust of A. Lincoln, another the bust of E. M. Stanton and the third having the bust of Samuel Dexter. Plate numbers and letters appear on the last to indicate plate and location of bill on plate. Some of the work of this issue was done by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, some by the American National Bank Note Company, and some by the National Bank Note Company.

The paper was of various kinds; plain, watermarked, fibre, minute and coarse and combinations of some. The inks were black for obverse engraving and red for seal. The reverse of entire series was green. The issue began July 14. 1869, and ceased February 6, 1875; it amounted to over $166,000,000.

The fifth and last of the general issue was the simplest and has the least number of varieties. The appropriation for issuing fractional paper money was about exhausted, and an Act of Congress April 17, 1876, for the issue of fractional silver coins to redeem the outstanding fractional paper currency caused the end of its manufacture.

The three denominations have but six varieties. The 10-cent denomination, appearing with the Treasury seal in Green and also in Red ink, has the portrait of W. M. Meredith. The red seal has a long key in one variety and a short key in the other variety. The 25-cent denomination has the portrait of Robt. Walker, and the difference in the size of key makes two varieties. The 50-cent denomination has the portrait of Wm. H. Crawford. They all have plate numbers and letters, as the Dexter of the former issue. The paper is all fibre watermarked paper. The ink is black for the engraving, with red or green seal, and the reverse of all varieties is green ink. Some of the work was done by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, some by the Columbian Bank Note Company of Washington, D. C., and some by Jos B. Carpenter of Philadelphia.

The issue commenced February 26, 1874, and ended February 15, 1876, and amounted to nearly $63,000,000. This makes a sum total of $368,724,079.45 issued, and in 1886 $15,000,000 was outstanding, and it was stated by Mr. Russell H. Browne at that time that only about $1,000,000 could be accounted for as outstanding. The amount of fractional silver and base metal coinage, as compared with the amount and number of specimens outstanding, should cause collectors to awaken to the opportunity that will never present itself again. Over $300,000,000 in minor silver coins, over 190,000,000 cents and half cents coined since 1857, to say nothing of that issued before, ought to cause you to realize how extremely scarce are some of the specimens of the subdivisions, of which scarcity even many paper money collectors are ignorant.

The tabulation as arranged up to date shows the following divisions and subdivisions. Divisions are what might be called types, or where the difference is distinctive and most easily discernible, as perforated edge or cut edge of the 1st issue, differences in surcharges or of paper in 2nd issue, difference in design, paper, or color of ink used as in 3rd issue. Subdivisions concern difference in paper, shade of ink, surcharges of each denomination, errors, insertion of letters or numbers on certain notes in sheet regularly occurring. Plate numbers are not included, though I have a list of all I have ever seen, nor are notes with signatures in improper places included.

	Divisions	Subdivisions	Total
The 1st issue has	16	30	46
The 2nd issue has	21	38	59
The 3rd issue has	12	58	70
The 4th issue has	6	17	23
The 5th issue has	3	6	9
	58	149	207

NOTES.

1. Comparative cost of printing, per $1000:

	Fractional	Postage
50-cent pieces	$ 1.59	$ 6.97
25-cent pieces	3.08	13.94
10-cent pieces	6.71	28.87
5-cent pieces	13 43	55.75
	$24.81	$105.53

making a saving on $50.000 lot Treasury assortment of $865.90, 400 times for 1st issue.

2. 2nd issue to October 1st, 1864.

	5-ct.	10-ct.	25-ct.	50-ct.
Membrane paper, dry	$11,857	$17,098	$58,689	$62,300
Bank note paper, dry	6,500	9,000	65,000	4,100
Bank note paper, wet	96,004	1,249,295	475,846	573,375

3. Having mentioned "proofs" twice, I must inquire what really are proofs. I think a "proof" must be an impression from the bed-piece before hardening of same, or this like coins might be called a "trial piece" or 'pattern" if the design be not accepted. Furthermore, a "proof" is usually on a different paper than a "first impression." A close trimmed specimen printed on one side only I should be inclined to suspect as a defective sheet specimen.

Chicago Numismatic Society

The 136th monthly meeting of the Chicago Numismatic Society was held Friday, May 7th, 1915, with President Holmes in the chair. Twelve members were present.

Magazines received since last meeting: The Numismatist for May and Mehl's Numismatic Monthly for May.

Sales catalogs were received from Henry Chapman, Elder and the United States Coin Co.

A "Monograph on the Big Copper Pennies coined by the U. S. Government from 1793 to 1857" was received from its author, Mr. Theodore J. Venn.

Two specimens of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition's Official Medals, one in bronze and one in silver, were received from Mr. Farran Zerbe.

Adjourned to meet Friday, June 4th, 1915.

M. P. CAREY, Secretary.

Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome

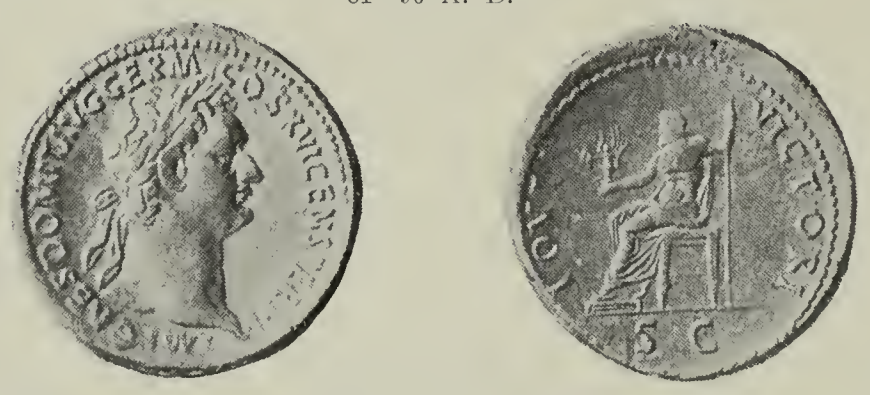
Especially written for Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

By SIGMUND KRAUSZ

Illustrated from Authentic Coins of the Period in the Collection of the Author.

Domitian

81—96 A. D.



[This is the last of a series of twelve articles on the Pictorial Coin History of Imperial Rome.—Ed.]

Titus Flavius Domitianus, second son of Vespasianus and Domitilla and younger brother of Titus, was born in 51 A. D. He happened to be in Rome during the Vitellian disorders and had taken refuge, together with his uncle, Flavius Sabinus, in the capitol when the latter was stormed by the partisans of Vitellius. While his uncle was killed, Domitian managed to escape from the burning ruins with great difficulty. Like his brother Titus he was made Princeps Juventutis and Caesar and appointed praetor in 70 A. D., which latter office he conducted with much despotism. In the same year he invaded a part of Gaul and Germany without authority and success and was, in consequence, recalled by his father, who then kept him in his entourage.

On the death of Vespasian in 79 A. D. he claimed that his father had made him heir to a part of the empire, but that his last will had been forged, and Titus, in order to console and conciliate him, appointed Domitian his colleague and successor. The short reign of Titus made him sole ruler in 81 A. D. The earlier years of his reign were on the whole such that the people did not show disappointment, even after such a period of good government as Titus had given them. Many good laws were passed, the provinces were well governed and justice rightly administered. He tried to improve the public morals and continued the reconstruction of the capitol which his predecessor had started after the second burning of this structure. As he grew older, however, the failure of some ill-advised campaigns against the Dacians, the Marcomanni and the Catti changed his nature and developed in him the worst traits of his character and instigated him to many acts of cruelty. By murder or banishment he deprived Rome of many citizens of wealth, talent and learning, of whom he became jealous for one reason or other. To win the favor of the army, he increased the pay of the soldiers, and to make his atrocities forgotten by the people, he arranged for them gladiatorial shows and other games in which he himself often participated. His gifts to the people were prodigal, but all that did not gain him their favor.

In 86 A. D. he established the Capitolian games, which were to be celebrated every five years. The following year he celebrated the Secular games, as testified to by numerous and highly interesting coins depicting the ceremonies attending them. After he had triumphed, in 84 A. D., for his imaginary victories over the Germans and had arrogated to himself the title of Germanicus, he also triumphed, in 89 A. D., after an infamous peace with Decebalus, king of the Dacians. His reign, towards the end, became unbearable and caused a conspiracy to be formed against his life. On the 18th of September, 96 A. D., he was assassinated and his death ended the dynasty of the Flavian emperors established by Vespasian.

The coinage of Domitian is prodigal in all metals and most common in silver and second bronze. His silver quinarii and silver medaillons (of Asiatic origin) are scarce, however, and such of the latter as are of Roman mintage are exceedingly rare. A gold medaillon, which up to the great theft in 1831 was in the Paris cabinet, was unique. His first bronze is usually of fine style, and those pertaining to the Secular games fetch high prices. Still rarer are two types with reverse of a triumphal arch and lion carrying a sword in his mouth. Coins of Domitian in G. B., M. B. and S. B. were struck in the colonies and Greek cities. His head appears with that of Domitia in gold and silver on Roman mintage. There is also a large series of uncertain S. B. and tesserae attributed to Domitian which, in many cases, show various birds and other animals in their types.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held Friday evening May 14, 1915, at the Park Avenue Hotel, with President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Beasley, Belden, Blake, Boyd, Frey, Heaton, Jaegg, Kennedy, Kohler, Niklewicz, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser; also as new member Mr. C. P. Frey, and as guests Messrs. Davidson, Savage and Saltus.

Mr. Niklewicz delivered a very interesting address on "Some Polish Kings: History and Coins." He began with Sigismund Augustus, the last of the Jagellons, and touched upon the history of all the Kings of Poland during the 16th and 17th century, ending with John III Sobieski. He dwelt at special length upon the life of Sigismund III, who also was King of Sweden, and whose coinage was very prolific, and John III Sobieski, the great warrior, who achieved fame on account of having relieved the siege of Vienna by the Turks. Mr. Niklewicz illustrated his address by a large number of silver and gold coins from his own collection.

After the address a rising vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Niklewicz.

The business meeting then took place. After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted as read with some slight corrections.

Messrs. F. B. Bardon and C. P. Frey were unanimously elected to membership.

The Treasurer then submitted his report for the four months ending May 1st.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a magazine, and read a very interesting letter received from Mr. Bardon in connection with his application for membership, and describing his collection and its origins.

The Secretary also read a press notice of Mr. de Lagerberg's collection of medals.

The Secretary also called the attention of the Club to the fact that quite a number of the very pretty club pins were on hand for sale, as well as some of the Smith Medals.

Mr. F. C. C. Boyd, for the Executive Committee, then reported it was decided to purchase for the club eight Elliott Smith medals for future use of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee further reported that they had directed the Secretary to present to Memmo Cagiati, Naples, Italy, and Mario Lanfranco, Rome, Italy, Elliott Smith medals.

Mr. Kennedy, in behalf of the Membership Committee, reported the applications for admission to the club of Messrs. Alfred E. Davidson of New Rochelle, of Mr. Maurice Schulmann of Amsterdam, and A. D. Savage of New York City.

Mr. Swanson, in behalf of the Medallic Art Committee, submitted the following report:

"Thomas A. Edison has been voted the American who has done the most to benefit mankind and is to receive the Civic Forum Medal of honor for distinguished public service. This Medal of Honor, which was established to give recognition on the part of the rank and file of the American people to that one of their countrymen who, in ways of peace, performs some signal public service, was first awarded last year. Colonel George W. Goethals was the recipient. The medal is from a design by Paul H. Manship, the young American sculptor, whose genius has been recognized by the great masters of the present day.

"At the spring meeting of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission at Pittsburg April 30th, fifty-two acts of heroism in many parts of the country were recognized. In two cases gold medals, in fourteen cases silver medals, and in thirty-six cases bronze medals were awarded.

"The New York Street Cleaning Department awarded nineteen medals under the auspices of the Committee of the Woman's Municipal League. These medals are presented each year in commemoration of the services which the late Col. George E. Waring gave to the department.

"The Swedish-American World's Fair Committee, Panama-Pacific International Exposition San Francisco, 1915, has struck a commemorative medal. The obverse represents the 'Golden Gate,' the sun setting on the horizon, with inscription Pan. Pac. Int. Expo. San Francisco, 1915. On the reverse will be found 'Pallas' (the Goddess of Wisdom) crowning Science and Labor, supporting United States and Sweden's official shields, with inscription 'arbetet adlar' (Labor ennobles). The medal may be obtained from the committee.

"The Pacific Jurisdiction of the Woodmen of the World are having struck a 2-inch medal commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization. On the obverse are the portraits of the first head consul, F. A. Falkenburg, and the present head consul, [illegible] their names, the date August 11 and the years 1890 and

1915. On the reverse is a wreath of oak and the emblem of the organization with suitable inscription in the field. The portraits were modeled by J. M. Swanson. The medal is for members of the organization and is hung from a bar and ribbon so that it can be worn when occasion demands."

President Smith then surprised the club by a number of presentations of the President Medals.

The first medal was presented to Mr. Davidson as the latest applicant for membership, and his good friend of many years' standing. Mr. Davidson accepted the medal in a very graceful speech explaining the particular significance which for many reasons the day had for him, and his pleasure at becoming a member of the club. He especially thanked "Neighbor Smith" for the token he had given him.

The next, a silver medal, was presented to Mr. Boyd, as a token of gratitude for his many and devoted activities in behalf of the club.

The third medal, also in silver, finally was given to Mr. Frey for his many years of faithful service to the club, and both recipients accepted the surprise given them with appropriate remarks.

Mr. Frey returned the compliments by presenting Mr. Boyd with an early medal issued by Whitehead & Hoag Co. in 1910; muling of the Heath and Higgins Medals.

President Smith then welcomed the guests of the evening, Mr. C. P. Frey, "the Tinker," and Mr. Saltus.

Mr. Frey replied, telling of some of his interests in Numismatics, especially of a book which was being published by the concern he was associated with, for the purpose of arousing the interest of school boys in coins, and which tried to do so especially by many fine illustrations.

In this connection Messrs. Niklewicz and Smith drew attention to the lamentable lack of knowledge of the average American "man in the street" of all the old types of American coinage which were still valid currency.

Mr. Saltus replied, telling of his recent trip South and to Cuba, on which he made inquiries in regard to medals and tokens in connection with the Cuban Revolution, and found that they were extremely difficult to obtain on the Island.

Mr. Belden extended an invitation to the club in behalf of the American Numismatic Society to visit a very fine exhibit of Presidential Piece Medals, which was accepted with thanks. The meeting then adjourned.

The following were the exhibits of the evening:

By Mr. Niklewicz: A series of Polish coins in connection with his address.

By Mr. Wormser: The following coins in connection with Mr. Niklewicz's exhibit: Ducats for the City of Danzig of Stephen Bathori Sigismund III Vladislaus IV, John Casimir, Michael Korybut and John III Sobieski; also double Ducat for Thorn of Michael Korybut and 10 Ducat Piece for Danzig of Sigismund III.

By Mr. Julius Guttag: New varieties of necessity paper money, as follows: Bermuda, one pound note engraved by the American Bank Note Company; Switzerland, 25 francs, printed in three languages; Belgium, one and two

francs; Bordeau Chamber of Commerce, 2 francs; Gibraltar, two shilling note August 6, 1914.

By Mr. Blake: Uncut sheets of four $1.00 and $2.00 silver certificates, the first sheets of the series signed by Parker & Burke; also a collection of coupons of United States Bonds.

By Dr. Valentine: A specimen Satyrical Paper Money, "Genuine Fiat Money."

By Mr. Davidson: The following medals awarded to the Patent Scaffolding Company: Scientific American Gold Medal, awarded by American Museum Safety. The Grand prize medal of the First International Exposition of Safety and Sanitation held in New York City 1913. Plaque awarded by Internationale Hygiene Ausstellung, Dresden, 1911.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 75th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order Tuesday May 4th, 1915, by President L. G. Amberg. The following members were present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, King, Woolsey, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Bostwick, Koeb, Wild, Borradaile, Kaufman, Tillotson, Stanley.

Mr. Bauer read a communication from Mr. J. de Lagerberg, in which he requested the different Anniversary Medals of the Association for the purpose of placing them in his collection, which he intended sending to the American Numismatic Association Convention at San Francisco for exhibit.

A silver and bronze medal of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was received from Mr. Farran Zerbe. A vote of thanks was extended to him for his kindness. The medals will be placed in the R. N. A. Collection on exhibit at the Municipal Museum.

Mr. Merritt announced that he had received word from Mr. Granberg that the 1915 Convention of the American Numismatic Association will be held in San Francisco. It was the unanimous opinion of the members present to do everything in our power to make the San Francisco Convention a success.

Mr. Theodore J. Venn favored the R. N. A. with a copy of his latest work on large United States Cents. A vote of thanks was given Mr. Venn for his kindness.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday May 18th, 1915.

The 76th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order Tuesday, May 18th, 1915, by President L. G. Amberg, with the following members present: Messrs. Woolsey, King, Merritt, Stanley, L. G. Amberg, W. H. Amberg, Borradaile, Bauer, Yawger, Plumb, Wild, French.

The evening was spent in discussing the forthcoming Convention of the American Numismatic Association. It was suggested that the Rochester Numismatic Association communicate with the Springfield Numismatic Club for the purpose of arranging to have such Springfield members as intended going to San Francisco to meet the Rochester members and all go together to the A. N. A. Convention.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday June 1st, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

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An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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JULY-AUGUST, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION
SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 30TH, 31ST AND SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1915

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B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

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Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JULY-AUGUST, 1915 No. 7-8

The American Numismatic Convention has finally been decided to be held in San Francisco on August 30th, 31st and September 1st. The Board of Governors are to be congratulated on this proper decision. Whether or not the Convention will be a success in point of attendance, it can not help but prove of much benefit to the Association.

The Editor will arrange to attend the A. N. A. Convention in August and in the meantime make a vacation tour of the Pacific Coast, this necessitates the combining of the July and August issues in a double number.

The NUMISMATIC MONTHLY readers desiring special service on the Coast will receive the personal attention of the Editor.

The New York Numismatic Club condemns the silver coinage of this country as inartistic and unworthy. This may be so; but it is not likely to interfere with the satisfactory use of the coins. As the American public does not use quarters, halves or whole dollars for artistic purposes, it will go on spending them for drinks, meals and groceries.

Medals and Their Origin

Writing of the custom of bestowing medals, the Times (London) says that originally the medal was purely an ornament, and it was not until the reign of Queen Elizabeth that the first military or naval commemorative medals were struck. These were the Armada medals, and ever since that engagement the wearing of a medal has generally implied that the owner took part in some military or naval action. The Duke of Wellington was a great believer in the distribution of war medals to his men, as his correspondence shows, and he was responsible for the general award of medals to the rank and file; the innovation commemorated Waterloo. A special romance will always surround the Waterloo medal; and another nearly as famous is the five-pointed star won by those who marched with Roberts from Kabul to Kandahar. But the Victoria Cross is the most renowned and most coveted of all. The bronze cross is suspended from a red ribbon when worn by soldiers and from a blue ribbon when worn by sailors. The medal for distinguished conduct in the field, another much-coveted decoration, was introduced in 1862. It bears on the obverse a military trophy with the royal arms; the ribbon is striped red and blue.

The Coins of Hawaii

By JOHN P. G. ARNDT

Having visited the Hawaiian Islands on my return trip from New Zealand and the South Sea Islands in September, 1911 and taking a special interest in collecting coins, I came to the conclusion of writing this article on the former coins of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

Prior to the year 1883 there existed for circulation in Hawaii the coins of the United States, England, France and Mexico, with the exception of a local currency issued at Lahaianaluna about the year 1850, consisting of 3 Keneta, 1/16, ⅛, ¼, ½ and 1 Dala (Dollar) pieces printed on square pieces of cardboard and some Notes issued by Ladd & Co. of Honolulu in 1848, besides this paper currency were in circulation copper coins, the Hapa Haneri pieces with bust of King Kamehameha III. issued in 1847 and a Tradesman Token issued by John Thomas Waterhouse of Honolulu in 1862 with portraits of Kamehameha IV. struck in white metal for small change in the Islands. But of a regular coinage we cannot speak of until the accession of Kalakana I. to the throne of Hawaii in February, 1874, who in the year 1881 in company with

Colonel Judd, his Chamberlain, and the Hon. William N. Armstrong, his Commissioner of Immigration, on a trip around the world, was approached in Vienna (Austria) by officials representing the French and Belgian mints, to have a national coinage issued for his island kingdom.

By order of the King, patterns for the new coins were struck in nickel, bearing on reverse the crowned figure 5 surrounded by a ribbon with the Hawaiian legend "UA MAN KE EA O KA AINA I KA PONO." But owing to a mistake of the engraver of the coins, the word AU was substituted in place of UA, the obverse having the portrait of Kalakana to left with title, "King of Sandwish Islands" and the year 1881. The king, of course, was so pleased with the impression of an independent coinage, that he ordered several hundred pieces to be coined for circulation, but owing to the fault of the metal, his native subjects did not approve of the new coins, consequently many were either destroyed or distributed among his friends, so that his realm was without an independent coinage until Claus Spreckels in 1883 approached his majesty on the subject of having a silver coinage struck for the benefit of the Hawaiian nation.

Accordingly application having been made by the Hawaiian Government for the coinage at the San Francisco Mint of 1,000,000 Dollars in silver of

denominations to correspond with the coins of the United States of America in weight and fineness, regulations of the 9th of November, 1883, by the Secretary of the United States Treasury as required by the act of January 29th, 1874. The coinage applied for having been authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Mint, with his approval, fixed the charges for coining the number of pieces specified, and the charges having been paid, the coinage was commenced on November 17th, 1883. The dies prepared for the purpose and furnished by the agent of the Hawaiian Government were, upon completion of the coinage in June, 1884, forwarded to and remained in the possession of the Director of the Mint. The application specified the coinage of a piece of the value of one-eighth of a Dollar, but this was subsequently changed to a piece of ten cents. The total coinage, in pieces and value, was as follows:

Denomination—	Pieces	Value
Dollars	500,000	$500,000
Half Dollars	700,000	350,000
Quarter Dollars	500,000	125,000
Dimes	250,000	25,000
Total	1,950,000	$1,000,000

The designs for the Hawaiian silver coins were prepared by Mr. Barber at the Philadelphia Mint, and in beauty and workmanship excel almost our own coins of the United States. The reverse of the Dollar represents the Royal Hawaiian Coat of Arms with mantle supported, and the Star of the Order of Kamehameha suspended, around the Hawaiian legend, "UA MAN KE EA O KA AINA I KA PONO." The figure 1 to left and letter D to right, signifying One Dollar; in exergue "AKAHI DALA." The Half and Quarter Dollar pieces bear the crowned shield with motto as above and inscription HAPALUA ½ D for the former and HAPAHA ¼ D for the latter.

The design for the One-eighth of a Dollar on reverse is within wreath, HAPAWELU wth Hawaiian crown above and motto as the Dollar; in exergue in the English language: "EIGHTH DOLLAR."

For the Dime piece the design is similar to the last, only the inscription reads, ONE DIME; in exergue UMI KENETA. The obverses of all the coins have the bust of Kalakana I, King of Hawaii, and in the field below the year 1883. They are all with milled edge.

The Hawaiian Government issued against deposits of this silver coinage Treasury Notes in denominations of $10, $20, $50 and $100. An act approved July 17th, 1884, by the Hawaiian legislature and King Kalakana to regulate the currency reads as follows:

> "From and after December 1st, 1884, the gold coins of the United States of America shall be the standard and legal tender at their nominal value in payment of all debts, public and private, within the Kingdom of Hawaii. Further the standard silver coins of the United States of America and the silver coins of the Kingdom of Hawaii shall be from and after December 1st, 1884, a legal tender at their nominal values for any amount not exceeding $10 in any one payment. From and after December 1st, 1884, gold and silver coins other than the coins of the United States and Hawaii shall be received in the

Treasury at a rate not exceeding their bullion value, for Government dues, duties and taxes. Chapter 37 of Session Laws of 1880, being an act to provide for a national coinage is hereby repealed; this repeal to take effect on the 1st day of December, 1884."

With the accession of Queen Liliuokalani in 1891 there was issued unofficially in England by R. Huth, Esq., a Pattern Silver Dollar bearing on obverse bust of Liliuokalani with inscription in Latin: "LILIUOCALANIA DEI GRATIA"; on reverse Hemisphere showing Hawaiian Islands; Hawaiarun Regina 1891; in exergue AKAHI DALA; also a $20 gold piece was coined with same portrait and inscription on obverse; reverse showing within wreath two Puloulou staffs crossed, with Royal crown above; below 20 DALA. To my knowledge there are only four of those gold coins in existence.

After the abrogation of the monarchy January 17th, 1893, there was issued by the same gentleman a Pattern Silver Dollar of the Princess Kaiulani, former heir apparent to the throne of Hawaii, showing on obverse bust of Princess to right surrounded by 3 dolphins, with inscription in Latin as follows: "CAIULANIA LILIUOCALANIÆ REGINÆ SORORIS FILIA"; reverse showing Hawiian Islands, SPES PUBLICA. OCT. XVI. MDCCCXCIII.

The dies for these coins were prepared by J. H. Pinches, Esq., in England. These coins never circulated, but were held by friends and admirers of Ex-Queen Liliuokalani and are to some extent rare and much sought after by numismatists. But since the annexation of Hawaii in 1898 by the United States most of the Hawaiian silver coins entered Uncle Sam's melting pot in San Francisco, so that collectors of coins will some day pay handsome prices for obtaining any of those pieces representing the former coinage of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

Death Penalty For The Use of Bogus Money

El Paso.—General Villa has ordered that the death penalty be applied to those guilty of forging or circulating counterfeit paper money, large quantities of which are reported in circulation along the Mexican border. In a statement received here from Torreon, Villa explained his action as follows:

"According to trustworthy reports, our enemy is introducing great quantities of bogus money and it is our duty to protect the real interest of commerce and society which is menaced constantly by the unscrupulous.

"I have ordered all governors and military commanders under control of the convention army to apply the death penalty by drum head courts to all persons found consciously guilty of the forgery or circulation of bogus money.

"I am sorry to say I have been forced to take this step because it has been impossible to cause punishment of the culprits in the United States, notwithstanding the truthful evidence that we have presented against the defendants in many cases and because the conscious sellers are not prosecuted in any way and the consequence has been to increase the issue of bogus money.

"GENERAL FRANCISCO VILLA."

Notes on the Cents of 1794

At the meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association, held June 1st, Dr. French exhibited his magnificent collection of 1794 cents, numbering sixty-one varieties. This is without doubt the finest and most complete collection of varieties of this date ever assembled. Forty-eight varieties were extremely fine or uncirculated. The balance were very fine except Nos. 30 and 60—the former of which was good, the latter very good. There are no duplicates known of these two numbers.

The Doctor spoke of the comparative varieties of each variety and showed an easy way to tell the variety. He also spoke of the combinations of obverses with a reverse and combination of reverses with some obverse. He also stated that Nos. 38 and 53 do not exist, and that Hays simply perpetuated the blunders made by Marris. Hays 38 was Marris 27, and Hays 53 was Marris 54. Mr. Chas. Steigerwalt bought the Hays collection after the death of Mr. Hays and in the space for H. 38 was a worn 39 which was supposed by Hays to be slightly different from the piece he gave the number 38 and was the identical piece Dr. Marris had previously given the number 27 in his classification. In the Hays collection the space for H. 53 or M. 54 was vacant. Hays never had it and took his description from Marris. Marris made his blunder by not recognizing a new obverse. This obverse was first described by Hays and given the number 55 in his classification. Mr. W. W. Hays was nearly 80 years old when he completed his work, and we can easily understand how he did not recognize the 38 as being the same as the 39. As stated before, the description of the 53 was taken from Marris. The reverse of the H. 55, as well as the supposed reverse of H. 53, are the same as the H. 44. The H. 54 also has this reverse.

Women Want One-Half Cent Pieces

Cleveland, Ohio.—Clubwomen are behind a state-wide movement, which may become national, having as its object insistence that the government coin half cent pieces. Mrs. Annie L. Motts, chairman of the committee on household economics of the Women's club, and one of the leading agitators of the idea, asserts that consumers get the worst of it in buying small quantities of any commodity that retails for a sum like twenty-five cents, because if they buy half a pound of butter, at 25 cents a pound, they are always charged 13 cents for it. Mrs. Motts says these extra half-cents which consumers are forced to pay amount up to considerable sums in the course of a year. Coining of half cent pieces would eliminate the evil, she believes.

Denford Numismatic Society

COMMON COINS THAT ARE SCARCE.
PRINCE EDWARDS ISLAND.

"Prince Edward Island," said Blake, "is the smallest province in Canada, and the 1871 cent is the only official issue. As far as I know there is only one variety of this. It is common, but uncirculated specimens are getting scarce now, and are worth taking care of

"The Wheatsheaf half-penny token is one of the rarest of all Canadian coins, but it is the common tokens that I am more particularly speaking of now.

"The no-date tokens (Breton 917), a split dry codfish on Obv., and a plough with legend, 'SPEED THE PLOUGH' on Rev., were issued in large numbers and there are several varieties of this. There are at least three varieties with a clevis at end of plough. The difference is marked and is easily seen. Another variety has a hook instead of a clevis, but all I have examined seem to be from the same dies. It is found with straight, upset and criss-cross Rev.

"Breton 918 has on Obv. 'PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND 1855' and on Rev. 'SELF GOVERNMENT AND FREE TRADE.' I have found three varieties of this. The difference on the obverse is in the spacing of the letters, this leaving more or less space between P and D. There are two varieties with narrow space under date; the difference is found on the reverse, the letter 'T' in 'government' being close to or away from the circle of beads.

"Breton 919 is found with two dates, 1855 and 1857, and is similar to the preceding number except in one point. The final letter 'S' of 'Edward's' is omitted, and it reads 'Prince Edward Island.' I have only noticed two varieties of the 1855 so far."

"What does the difference consist of?" asked Hill. "They seem pretty near alike to me."

"I take the obverse," replied Blake, "and hold a thin card across the face of the coin immediately below the date, and then take notice what letters or portions of letters show above the card, or line. In 919—1855 a line drawn across—at bottom of the date runs through the letters N and L. This variety I consider scarce, and if you were to give it a degree of rarity corresponding to Breton's degrees, it would easily be R. 2. In the other variety of same year these two letters are above the line. This variety is more common.

"It is, however, in those of this number, 919 dated 1857, that the variety hunter finds his game. He will find a pair of callipers more useful than a gun; in fact, if he wants to find varieties, he must use callipers. Let him sort out those with same Obv. die—and then he may examine the reverses. I took those with the more closely spaced letters on Obv. first, and placing the card at bottom of date could see the tail of 'R' and a portion of the first foot of 'N' above the line, or card. You may find two from same Obv. die, but the reverses are different. The letter 'T' being, on some, closer to the beading. Another difference is the size of the letters in the word 'AND,' and perfect, imperfect and double cut letters. So far I have found fourteen varieties of 919—1857."

"It seems to me," said Howard, "that you are drawing a pretty fine line. Is it worth all the trouble you take?"

"Sure it is," replied Blake. "Why not study these coins out? Other people might say the same thing about our large cents. I find these Canadians interesting, and it's a field that has not been worked much yet. Take Breton 997; I have forty-six varieties of the 'Ships Colonies & Commerce' tokens, and I consider the lot easily worth one hundred dollars.

"But it's the Prince Edward Island tokens I started on. In Breton 920 I find four distinct varieties. There are two varieties of both wide and compact date, 1855, the difference being in the reverse, the spacing of the letters, and the way the bottom of the letters of the word 'AND' line with the letters 'A' and 'E' of 'Agrieulture.'

"The halfpenny token, Breton 921, shows a steamboat on obverse, and the same reverse as Breton 920, but as far as I know there is only one variety of this. All the tokens I have mentioned are common, but some of them are certainly scarce. There are some cheeks, but I draw the line at these myself—though they are of equal interest to many collectors."

"What about the 'ANSE CANOT' token with 10 on reverse?" asked Howard.

"I never saw it," said Blake. "Many years ago I saw it offered for sixpence in an English dealer's catalogue. I sent for it—but, needless to say, it did not come. I have heard that there are three values of this token, 5, 10 and 20. They may be all right—they may be very rare, but I would prefer a 'Wheatsheaf' to the lot."

Choice Engravings

"America is not deficient in patriotism nor in love of art," said the cheery citizen. "No," replied Miss Cayenne. "But just the same, the general eagerness to possess $20 bills is not due entirely to the fact that George Washington's picture is on them."—Washington Star.

Prices Realized at the Sale of the B. W. Smith Collection

The following are some of the prices realized for some of the principal coins in the Smith Collection sold by B. Max Mehl on May 25, 1915.

$20.00 Gold, 1887 Proof	$ 41.50
$20.00 Gold, 1891 Brilliant proof	31.00
$10.00 Gold, 1797 Small Eagle, Ex. fine	68.00
$10.00 Gold, 1798 over '97. Very fine	82.00
$10.00 Gold, 1873 About fine	40.00
$10.00 Gold, 1887 Brilliant proof	23.00
$10.00 Gold, 1907 Very fine	40.00
$10.00 Gold, 1870 CC Mint. Very good	20.00
$5.00 Gold, 1795 Extremely fine	24.25
$5.00 Gold, 1814 Uncirculated	25.50
$5.00 Gold, 1820 Uncirculated	60.00
$5.00 Gold, 1823 Very fine	42.00
$5.00 Gold, 1832 Uncirculated	205.00
$5.00 Gold, With motto, 1834 Uncirculated	72.50
$5.00 Gold, 1861 D. Mint. Uncirculated	16.00
$4.00 Gold, 1879 Extremely fine	72.50
$3.00 Gold, 1873 Extremely fine	52.00
$3.00 Gold, 1875 Brilliant proof	1125.00
$3.00 Gold, 1876 Dulled proof	175.00
$3.00 Gold, 1854 D. Mint. Very fine	48.00
$2.50 Gold, 1796 Fine	62.00
$2.50 Gold, 1797. Fine	78.00
$2.50 Gold, 1802. Extremely fine	21.00
$2.50 Gold, 1808 Uncirculated	19.50
$2.50 Gold, 1826 over '25. Fine	93.00
$2.50 Gold, 1829 Brilliant semi-proof	35.50
$2.50 Gold, 1842 Very fine	68.00
$2.50 Gold, 1875 Brilliant proof	36.50
$2.50 Gold, 1841 D. Mint. Uncirculated	12.00
$2.50 Gold, 1852 D. Mint. Very good	32.00
$2.50 Gold, 1845 O. Mint. Fine	65.00
Gold Dollar, 1863. Uncirculated	36.00
Gold Dollar, 1864. Uncirculated	35.00
Gold Dollar, 1865. Very fine	38.00
Gold Dollar, 1867. Brilliant proof	25.00
Gold Dollar, 1872. Brilliant proof	21.00
Gold Dollar, 1857 D. Mint. Uncirculated	15.00
Gold Dollar, 1870 S. Mint. Uncirculated	52.00
$2.50 Gold, 1830 Templeton Reid. Fine	360.00
$5.00 (1834) C. Bechtler, 150 G. 20 Carats. Very fine	240.00
$5.00 A. Bechtler, 122 G. 22 Carats. Very good	81.00
$5.00 A. Bechtler, 141 G. 20 Carats. Very good	34.25
$2.50 California Gold. 1848 Very fine	45.00
$50.00 Gold. 1851 Augustus Humbert. Fine	180.00
$50.00 Gold. 1852 Augustus Humbert. Fine	140.00
$10.00 Gold (1849) Miners Bank. Fine	190.00
$10.00 Gold, 1852 Moffat & Co. Very fine	86.00
$10.00 Gold, 1852 Moffat & Co., date close. Very good	92.00
$5.00 Gold, 1849 Norris, Greig & Norris. Ex. fine	37.50
$5.00 Gold, 1852, Wass, Molitor & Co. Very fine	102.00
$10.00 Gold, 1860, Clark, Gruber & Co. Extremely fine	40.00
$20.00 Gold, 1860. View of Pike's Peak. Very fine	725.00
$20.00 Gold, 1861 Very fine	240.00
$5.00 Gold, 1849 Mormon. Nearly uncirculated	40.00

$5.00 Gold, 1860 Mormon. Very good	42.00
$2.50 Gold, 1849 Mormon. Fine	35.00
$10.00 Gold, 1849 Oregon Territory. Fair	340.00
$5.00 Gold, 1849 Beaver. Very good	110.00
$1.00 Silver, 1794 Very good	130.00
$1.00 Silver, 1795 Brilliant mint luster	7.25
$1.00 Silver, 1796 Extremely fine	13.75
$1.00 Silver, 1797 Uncirculated	11.50
$1.00 Silver, 1799 over '98 Extremely fine	7.00
$1.00 Silver, 1801 About uncirculated	6.75
$1.00 Silver, 1803 Uncirculated	7.00
$1.00 Silver, 1836 Brilliant proof	16.00
$1.00 Silver, 1836 C. Gobrecht below base. Brilliant proof	151.00
$1.00 Silver, 1838 Brilliant proof	310.00
$1.00 Silver, 1839 Very fine	55.00
$1.00 Silver, 1846 Brilliant proof	25.50
$1.00 Silver, 1851 Brilliant proof	140.00
$1.00 Silver, 1852 Brilliant semi-proof	120.00
$1.00 Silver, 1871 CC Mint. Very good	12.00
$1.00 Silver, 1873 CC Mint. Very fine	8.50
$1.00 Silver, 1884 CC Mint. Very good	10.00
$1.00 Silver, 1885 CC Mint. Very good	11.25
$1.00 Silver, 1887 S. Mint. Very fine	9.25
Trade Dollar, 1884. Brilliant proof	525.00
Trade Dollar, 1878. Very good	7.25
Trade Dollar, 1877. Made into a locket. Perfect	3.40

Notwithstanding the fact of the so-called "hard times" the sale was one of the best patronized sales held by B. Max Mehl. There were nearly three hundred (300) bidders represented and more than four hundred orders for Price Lists of the sale have been received to date.

The total amount realized for the sale was $17,293.35.

The complete list showing amounts realized for each lot may be had for fifty cents. The Catalogue and list, $1.00.

Almost two million dollars a day are destroyed by men in the employ of the Treasury Department at Washington. This comes about by the redemption of worn-out paper money. The government encourages the tendency of people to demand crisp and clean bills for those soiled and torn, and the average life of a one-dollar bill is now about fourteen months, where it used to be three or four years. The larger bills, for obvious reasons, have a much longer lease of life. The large increase of late in the volume of bills of all kinds sent in for redemption is taken as a reliable indication of brisker business and better times.

United States Ships 4,7000,000 Coins to San Salvator

Philadelphia.—There was shipped from the United States mint today a package containing 4,700,000 nickel coins made for the government of San Salvador.

The mint will now begin work upon a contract to manufacture $12,000,000 in coin for the government of Cuba.

This is one of the largest contracts ever undertaken by the local mint for a foreign nation and will require from six to eight months to complete.

The First United States Mint

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By FRANK H. STEWART.

Numismatists spend vast sums for rare United States coins, such as 1794 and 1804 dollars, 1792 silver-center cents and 1799 cents; but very few know where they were made. The knowledge that all dated prior to 1833 were coined at 37 and 39 North Seventh Street, Philadelphia, in the first building erected by authority of Congress for a public use, should add a sentimental interest to them,—particularly so when it is known that the building was erected under the direction of Washington and that the first coins made in the Mint were the so-called Washington half-dismes, made of silver furnished by Washington.

The illustration shows the buildings as they stood when torn down, excepting damage to the roofs by different fires. The middle building was the coinage building and the first one erected, in 1792. The front building was built about 1816 and was used principally for offices, although some coining took place in the upper floors; it took the place of a smaller and older building.

The machinery was moved from the first to the second Mint during the latter part of 1832. The Government sold the first Mint property in 1836 to a man named Kates, and he and other members of his family held title for seventy-one years.

In 1907, I purchased the property and immediately demolished the rear building. The other two were torn down in 1911. In the excavations many curious things were brought to light. About fifty (50) coins and planchets were found, including two silver-centre cent planchets. A large vault under the front building was uncovered beneath the basement brick floor and it is my opinion that this vault was in use in the building that first stood on the street front and was sealed up when the new building was erected.

David Rittenhouse, the greatest and most celebrated native Pennsylvanian

that ever lived, was the first Director of the Mint and lived at the corner of Seventh and Arch Streets. A few years before, Jefferson had boarded at the corner of Seventh and Market Streets, and while there drafted the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration building, like the first Mint building, was forever lost to posterity because there was no sentiment for its preservation. Both of these historic buildings could have been preserved for the cost of moving them away.

I was recently informed that the exact location of the grave of Rittenhouse is now unknown. Such is fame. Today a gang of workmen are digging and tearing up Independence Square, trying to find the foundation stones of Rittenhouse's observatory where he observed the transit of Venus, in 1769.

I have spent considerable time in trying to locate the lost history of the first United States Mint, and after eight years of search, believe I know more about it than any other person. The trials and tribulations of our early coinage are almost unbelievable. Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson, Rittenhouse and Boudinot all took a deep interest in its operations, and in my opinion it would have been abandoned if it had not been for their united efforts.

On May 15th last, I was honored with an invitation to take part in a surprise party to Jacob B. Eckfeldt, on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of his monthly pay day at the Philadelphia Mint. His father and grandfather also worked for the Mint. The three generations have been with the Mint a total of one hundred and twenty-three years,—from 1792 to date. I have a copy of Court testimony given by Adam Eckfeldt, in which he said he went with the Mint when it started. Such loyalty to the institution deserves to be recognized in a fitting manner by the government.

In the Eckfeldt home I was shown, by Mrs. Eckfeldt, many interesting things,—portraits of all the Eckfeldts, six generations of them; the tongs and shovel of the first Mint fireplace; Adam Eckfeldt's dining table, traditionally known as the Washington table; old documents and manuscript letters, many of them over one hundred years old; and two chairs, about seventy-five years old, used in the second Mint at Juniper and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.

The cut published of the First United States Mint is a reproduction of a copyrighted painting by Lamazure, made under my supervision. I have some prints, exact color reproductions of the painting, made by the Osborne Company, and while they last I shall be pleased to send them to public institutions, free of all expense. To the best of my knowledge, there is no other known print of the First Mint Buildings; that is the reason why I had this one made.

I have in contemplation a history of the First United States Mint, and if any of the readers of your MONTHLY have any information concerning it, or can refer me to sources of information, it will be highly appreciated by me.

IRON COINS ARE NOW BEING USED IN GHENT.

The Hague, May 22.—Ghent has begun the use of iron coins. A decree legalizing the odd metal money has just gone into effect.

The step was made necessary by the shortage of gold, silver and copper. The use of iron money may be made obligatory in other parts of Belgium, since the Germans will not permit gold or copper to be coined into money in Belgium.

Additionat Notes and Description of the Latest Official Souvenir Coins

All the denominations of the Official coins of the Panama-Pacific Exposition are now ready for distribution. The following is a description of different coins issued, also giving the number of pieces coined of each denomination:

HALF DOLLAR SILVER.

Designs by Charles E. Barber.
Issue limited to 200,000.

Obverse: Columbia scattering flowers; attendants with cornucopia to signify the boundless resources of the West. Background, Golden Gate illumined by the rays of the setting sun. Inscription: PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—1915.

Reverse: Shield of the United States surmounted by American Eagle and supported on the one side by a branch of oak, emblem of strength and stability, and on the other side by the olive branch of peace. Inscription: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—HALF DOLLAR—IN GOD WE TRUST.

ONE DOLLAR GOLD.

Issue limited to 25,000 pieces.
Designs by Charles Keck.

Obverse: Head representing labor through whose efforts the Panama Canal became a reality: Inscription: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—1915.

Reverse: Two dolphins, indicating the meeting of the two oceans, surround ONE DOLLAR—PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—SAN FRANCISCO.

QUARTER EAGLE ($2½) GOLD.

Issue limited to 10,000.
Designs by Charles E. Barber.

Obverse: Columbia seated on the mythical Sea Horse. Columbia with the Caduceus, the emblem of trade and commerce, inviting the nations of the world to use the new way from Ocean to Ocean. Inscription: PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—1915.

Reverse: American Eagle on a standard and bearing the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—2½ DOL.

QUINTUPLE EAGLE ($50 GOLD), Round and Octagonal.

The first $50 gold pieces to be issued under authority of the United States.
Total issue limited to 3,000 pieces.
Designs by Robert Aitken.

The motives used in these designs were selected by the sculptor because of their simple dignity and far-reaching significance, as well as for their decorative pattern.

Obverse: Minerva, the Goddess of Wisdom, Skill, Contemplation, Spinning, Weaving and of Agriculture and Horticulture—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FIFTY DOLLARS—M C M X V. In field, IN GOD WE TRUST.

Reverse: Owl, sacred to Minerva, the accepted symbol of Wisdom, perched upon a branch of western pine. PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—SAN FRANCISCO. In the field E PLURIBUS UNUM; the designers initials, R. A.

Dolphins, suggesting as they encircle the central field, the uninterrupted water route made possible by the Panama Canal, occupy the angles of the octagonal coin.

There is a defect in the uniform thickness of the Half Dollar coin, particularly over the head of Columbia. This is not an accident, but considering how close the design comes to the edge it is still a problem with the Mint at the Exposition how they can produce them without the dies displacing the metal at that point and naturally preventing uniform thickness. Experiments are being made to obviate this.

The Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint has co-operated with the Coin Department of the Exposition and a party of Exposition officials and San Francisco notables were present at the striking of the first $50.00 gold piece, which was purchased at $100.00 by Mr. Charles S. Moore, President of the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

An Encased Stamp of Interest

A long questioned denomination of encased postage stamp has recently been authenticated beyond a doubt. It is the large Jackson head two-cent black in a Gault frame and has been acquired by Ben G. Green of Chicago, who probably has the most complete collection of these "necessity money" products of the second year of the Civil War.

With the hoarding of "hard money" during the early months of the war all kinds of coin became very scarce and merchants and individuals resorted to many "make shifts" for small change. Due bills printed on bits of paper and cardboard, and metal tokens in similitude to cents, were numerously issued and used by tradesmen for change-making purposes. Postage stamps were also used to a great extent and on account of their certain value were preferable to the other "make shift" money, but on account of their adhesive and easy tearing qualities they were not very practical.

In 1862 one J. Gault devised and received a patent for a metal case with mica face covering in which a postage stamp could be placed and protected, the back of the case providing for imprint or advertisement. What promised to be a profitable patent for Gault had but a brief period for market, for soon after he started to exploit this product the government issued "postal currency," exchangeable for postage stamps, which was soon followed by an extensive issue of "fractional currency" which relieved the small change stringency.

The various denominations of encased stamps now known are 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, 30, and 90 cents. With the various back imprints, about 150 varieties are recorded. There is also a 9 cent in an oblong case containing a strip of three 3 cent stamps; this denomination is not considered a Gault product and, by some, is questioned as having a legitimate place in the series.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel Friday evening, June 11, 1915, with President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Adams, Beasley, Belden, Blake, Boyd, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Imhoff, Kennedy Kohler Nicklewicz Proskey Smith, Swanson, Valentine and Wormser and as new members Messrs. Davidson and Savage.

After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were read, and were approved with some slight corrections.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a press notice in regard to Mr. de Lagerberg's collection and exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, also letter from Bardon and the receipt of one magazine.

Mr. Belden called to the attention of the Club the death of Mr. Charles Gregory. The President, in behalf of the Club, expressed great sorrow at the loss of such a distinguished collector and our esteemed fellow member, and the Secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence, and to spread this fact upon the minutes.

Mr. Boyd in behalf of the Executive Commiteee announced that the subject of the next meeting would be an exhibition of medals and buttons of William Henry Harrisen.

Mr. Kennedy in behalf of the Membership Committee recommended favorably for election the names of Messrs. Alfred E. Davidson, Alexander Duncan Savage and Maurice Schulmann. Upon vote of the Club the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the election of these new members, and they were duly elected.

The President then welcomed the new members present, Messrs. Davidson and Savage, both of whom addressed interesting remarks to the Club. The business meeting then adjourned to look over the very large and interesting line of exhibits of the evening, which were as follows:

By Mr. Adams (in behalf of Mr. Zerbe): One-half dollar and gold dollar of the new official Panama-Pacific issue of the United States Government.

By Mr. Guttag: The new gold five Pesos for Cuba; Danish West Indies four and ten Daler; an octagonal Lesher Referendum dollar; two and a half Gulden (paper) for the Netherlands.

By Mr. Frey: Three types of the 10 Gulden of William III of Holland, dated 1850, 1875 and 1876; and three types of Wilhelmina, his daughter, the present Queen. Among the latter was the girlish type with long hair, which is rare.

By Mr. de Lagerberg: Political, R. R. & S. S. Transportation Commemorative Medals, etc. Eleven different specimens from Brazil, Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Peru and South America.

By Mr. Niklewicz: United States gold coins as follows: 1795 eagle, the first type; 1795 half eagle, first type; 1807, half eagle, the third type; 1834 half eagle, the fourth type.

By Mr. Belden: Decorations of the present war: The Iron Cross 1914, second class; the miniature new English "Military Cross."

By Dr. Valentine: Hard Times Token, Low No. 10, uncirculated.

By Mr. Beesley: A collection of French Medals showing portraits of famous French kings. A series of American Historical Medals. A Masonic

Medal of Burlington, New Jersey. A medal on the visit of the Prince of Wales to Ireland, 1868. A set of round and octagonal commemorative ¼, ½ and one dollar, struck for the Panama-Pacific Exposition in gold. A gold Coronation Medal of Edward VII. Two pound piece of George IV, 1823. A Gold Sovereign of Oliver Cromwell.

By Mr. Chapman: Rochester Numismatic Association anniversary medal, 1914, with portrait of George J. Bauer, President.

By Mr. M. Wormser: Brunswick Rudolph Augustus, 1685. Triple Lautenthal Mining Thaler. Saxony square Thaler, Frederick Augustus, 1697, upon reception of Polish Nobles. Denmark Christian V square coronation medal of Thaler size. Eichstatt Joseph contribution Thaler, 1796. Charles VI ¼ Ducats for Hungary and for Transylvania.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 77th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order in the Rochester Municipal Museum Tuesday evening, June 1, 1915, by Present L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, King, Plumb, Bauer, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Bostwick, Koeb, Putnam, Borradaile, Kaufman.

A vote of thanks was extended Mr. E. D. Putnam for arranging that we might have the privilege of holding our meeting at the Rochester Municipal Museum, and for courtesies extended to us while there. It gave us an opportunity of inspecting our collection on exhibit there. While we are still short some of the varieties of the U. S. series, it is a very creditable collection, considering the short time we have been at it and the few to contribute.

A letter was read from Mr. R. M. McLachlan advising that he had been appointed chairman of committee (by President Duffield) to secure papers to be read at the San Francisco Convention of the A. N. A., in which he asked if any of our members would prepare and read a paper at that time. As it is at present uncertain just who will attend from here, the Secretary was instructed to advise Mr. McLachlan that the matter would be kept on the table and if it was found that any member would be able to read a paper we would advise him later.

Dr. French had on exhibition his complete set of 1794 Cents and gave a talk on the different numbers, etc., which was very interesting. Very few of the members had had the pleasure of seeing a complete set of 1794 Cents in one collection. The Doctor was accorded a vote of thanks.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, June 15, 1915.

The 78th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order at the Hotel Rochester Tuesday, June 15, 1915, by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, Woolsey, Plumb, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Stanley, Bostwick, Borradaile, Tillotson.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. William Pillon of New York sent us a One-half Shekel (Mark Penny) of Pottstown Chapter No. 271, which will be placed on exhibition at

the Roehester Munieipal Museum with the other Masonic pennies. The Secretary was instrueted to write and thank Mr. Pillon.

Publieations reeeived: Philatelie West, Mehl's Numismatic Monthly, Catalogue of Lyman H. Low's 181st sale, June 21, 1915.

Meeting adjourned to July 6, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Seeretary.

Report of the Meeting of the British Numismatic Society

With Interesting Notes Regarding the Maunday Money.

Report of the Meeting Held on April 28th, 1915.

Lieut.-Col. H. W. Morrison, President, in the ehair.

The President referred to the loss suffered by the Soeiety in the death of Mr. Bernard Roth, one of its Vice-Presidents. Mr. W. L. Harrison was elected a member.

Miss Helen Farquhar read a paper on "Maunday Money," in which, whilst admitting that a eonsiderable quantity of small silver was required by our Tudor and Stuart monarchs for daily eharities, apart from the small amount demanded by the aetual dole on Holy Thursday, she deprecated, as eonveying an erroneous impression, the use of the term "Maunday" for the groat and threepenee until after the advent of the House of Hanover, and addueed evidenee from eontemporary manuseript sourees of the eontinual issue for ordinary currency of the small eoins usually massed by numismatists under that title. She explained that at the eeremony in the sixteenth and seventeenth eenturies the silver dole eonsisted of "single pence" equal in number to the years of the sovereign's age, with "one year of grace" over, given to a like number of poor persons. A document which ordered half-groats as well as pennies at Eastertide for the use of James I, was accounted for by reference to a reeord of the Royal progress of his predecessor, Queen Elizabeth, through St. James's Park in the afternoon of Holy Thursday, when she distributed to more than 2,000 men, women and children, the sum of two-penee apieee, although her pensioners earlier in the day had reeeived "single pence."

Dr. G. C. Williamson, by permission of Earl Beauehamp, exhibited the original miniature by Hilliard representing the dole of Maunday money by Queen Elizabeth. It was probably the only eontemporary view of such a ceremony in Tudor times, and, as illustrative of several points raised by Miss Farquhar in her paper, created much interest. An expression of thanks to Lord Beauchamp for his courtesy to the Soeiety was passed.

Amongst other exhibitions were Maunday money of all sovereigns from Charles II. to our present King; examples of the red bags, for the gold, and the white bags, for the silver, in which it was distributed; also patterns and rare varieties of the small coins of Charles I. and Charles II., by Miss Farquhar; a series of Maunday money by Mr. Joseph Young; examples of the groat, threepence, and penny of Charles II. and James II. from dies on which the dates had been altered, and proofs of the groat and half-groat of 1686, by the President; specimens of the Maunday bags, and shillings of James I. and Charles I., with altered mint-marks not previously recorded, by Mr. H. A. Parsons; and a Guernsey double of 1911 bearing three leopards, instead of three lions, in the arms, by Mr. Henry Garside.

SPECIAL!

ANENT THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION AND THE PANAMA-PACIFIC SOUVENIR COINS

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1915

The following telegram reached us from Mr. Farran Zerbe, Chief of the Souvenir Coin Department of the Panama-Pacific Exposition who is also taking an active interest in the arrangement for the coming A. N. A. Convention in San Francisco, after the body of the NUMISMATIC MONTHLY was already on the press. The telegram is self-explanatory and we know that it will be read with much interest by all A. N. A. Members:

Exposition Grounds, San Francisco
June 25th, 1915

B. Max Mehl,
Fort Worth, Texas.

"The Pacific Coast Numismatic Society was organized here last evening with following officers: Fred T. Huddart, President; A. C. Nygren, Vice President and H. Steinman, Secretary. A good programme is being arranged for the Convention. None should miss it.

Dies on the round fifty dollar pieces broke on sixty third piece. New dies awaited closing of mint for fiscal year settlement. This will delay delivery of complete sets and quantity orders of gold dollars until July tenth."

(Signed) *FARRAN ZERBE.*

EDITORIAL NOTE: Having had the pleasure of meeting and being entertained by the gentlemen who compose the newly organized Pacific Coast Numismatic Club we feel confident that whatever these gentlemen may undertake in the way of entartainments and other features for the A. N. A. Convention will prove not only successful but will make the Convention one of the most enjoyable and interesting in the history af the Association.

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VOLUME VI.

NUMBER 9-10
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Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION

IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR

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SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

SEPT.-OCT., 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

B. MAX MEHL

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

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301-304 Commonwealth Building, Fort Worth, Texas

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Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, SEPT.-OCT., 1915 No. 9-10

The Annual Convention of the American Numismatic Association

Held at San Francisco, Calif., August 30, 31, and September 1, 1915.

The members who "braved" the distance and time and journeyed across the Continent to attend the 1915 Annual Convention of the American Numismatic Association were fully repaid for their trouble, not only in the pleasure they derived at the Convention, but in the satisfaction of having attended a Convention which will undoubtedly go down in our Association's history as one of the most pleasant.

The Convention, owing to the not too large attendance, had the atmosphere of more of a family reunion. Owing to the other attractions in San Francisco at the time of the Convention it was necessary to deviate from the programme generally carried out at our previous conventions. But it was easily noted and generally agreed by those present that a great deal of good will accrue to the Association for having held the 1915 Convention in San Francisco.

With the usual Western hospitality the local members, representing the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, lost no time in looking after the entertainment of the visitors. These members not only carried out the arranged programme, but whenever possible shoved in an "extra." So, on Sunday afternoon, August 29th, after the visiting members had already secured their hotel accommodations in the morning, they were tendered an automobile drive of several hours extending through the world-famous Golden Gate Park, along the Pacific ocean, visiting the Sutro Museum, the famous Cliff House, Seal Rocks, through the Presidio, viewing the interesting fortifications of the San Francisco Harbor, and through the Government Park in the Presidio from where a beautiful view is obtained of the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Returning through the principal and finest resident section of the metropolis of the Golden West.

In the evening, the party separated into smaller parties, taking in the various amusements at the Exposition grounds and city, according to their own inclination.

The first business session was held on Monday morning, August 30th, in the parlor of Hotel Stewart. The Convention was called to order by Mr. H. O. Granberg from Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Mr. Granberg, as Chairman of

the Board of Governors, was the ranking officer of the Association in attendance. Mr. Edgar H. Adams of New York acted as Secretary.

The Chairman appointed Dr. J. M. Henderson and Mr. Farran Zerbe as a committee on proxies and credentials. They also appointed the election committee, consisting of Mr. Fred T. Huddart, Dr. J. M. Henderson, Mr. B. Max Mehl, and Mr. Farran Zerbe. While the credentials committee was preparing its report the Convention informally discussed the various subjects pertaining to the Association. The prevailing "Exposition atmosphere" of San Francisco prevented the taking of too much time for reading papers, etc., which ordinarily are listened to by but very few members and are usually better appreciated and enjoyed when read at leisure in the official journal.

The committee on proxies reported the Convention representation and holders of proxies as designated by members:

J. M. Henderson	70
Farran Zerbe	24
F. T. Huddart	67
B. Max Mehl	7
F. J. Loer	6
E. H. Adams	3
H. O. Granberg	4
Carl Wurtzbach	2
Henry Chapman	3
John L. Hitchcock	5
Total	191

The afternoon was given over to the meeting of the election committee while the other members enjoyed a sightseeing trip through the business and resident section of the city.

On Tuesday, August 31st, the first business to come before the session was the report of the election committee. Mr. Fred T. Huddart, its chairman, reported the following officers elected for the ensuing year:

President, H. O. Granberg, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.
First Vice President, W. C. Stone, Springfield, Mass.
Second Vice President, Dr. D. G. Bennett, San Francisco, Cal.
Secretary, Waldo C. Moore, Lewisburg, Ohio.
Treasurer, W. Hoerner, Lewisburg, Ohio.
Librarian, H. H. Yawger, Rochester, N. Y.
Members Board of Governors:
Judson Brenner, Dekalb, Ill.
Carl Wurtzbach, Lee, Mass.
F. E. Merritt, Rochester, N. Y.
W. F. Dunham, Chicago, Ill.
Howard Newcomb, Detroit, Mich.

Mr. Granberg having been nominated for both President and Chairman of Board of Governors and having been elected President, left a vacancy for the office of Chairman of Board of Governors. Upon motion of Mr. Adams, the rules were suspended and Dr. Henderson placed Mr. Judson Brenner in nomination for Chairman of Board of Governors. The nomination was

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION 1915.

seconded by Mr. Loer of Chicago, and Mr. Brenner received the unanimous vote of the Convention.

The Chairman appointed a committee on resolutions consisting of B. Max Mehl chairman, Dr. J. M. Henderson and Geo. C. Arnold.

On motion of Dr. Henderson a vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Adams, the retiring manager of the Numismatist, for his excellent service rendered the Association in his so ably and so successfully conducting the affairs of the official journal. Mr. Adams' report showed the "Numismatist" to be in excellent condition financially.

The Convention then went in a body to the United States Mint, where Hon. T. W. H. Shannahan, Superintendent of the Mint, personally conducted them through the Mint, explaining in every detail the minting of coins and the various other interesting subjects of the Mint, among which was a visit to the store room, where no less than a hundred and fifty-nine millions of dollars in gold bullion is stored. Here Mr. Shannahan explained in detail the method in which the gold is purchased, refined, assayed and finally deposited in the vault.

The Official Convention photograph was then taken on the steps of the Mint, after which a delightful luncheon was served at the Rex Cafe. The balance of the day was spent at the Exposition.

In the evening of the second Convention day, the party spent a most enjoyable time taking in special Illumination and Fire Works of the Exposition and then a trip through the famous San Francisco Chinatown.

Wednesday, September 1st, the third day of the Convention, was designated as the American Numismatic Association day of the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Therefore the business of the Convention consisted only in receiving the report of the Resolutions committee and a short discussion on the probable place for our 1916 Convention. Mr. Granberg read invitations to the Association to hold its Convention in New York City, Chicago, St. Louis, Rochester, and a special invitation from the Mayor of the city of Baltimore. After discussing the various cities in which it would be to the best interests of the Association to hold its convention, Mr. Adams moved that it be the sense of the 1915 Convention that Baltimore is the logical Convention city for our next Convention. It was also moved that a Convention committee be appointed now to work in conjunction with a local committee to have complete charge of all arrangements, so that with the central location of Baltimore, the 1916 Convention should be a very successful one. The Convention committee is composed of Mr. Adams, Mr. Brenner and Mr. D. A. Williams.

The method of election in the Association being generally unsatisfactory and causing considerable confusion and misunderstanding, upon motion of Dr. Henderson a committee consisting of Dr. Henderson, chairman, H. A. Montgomery and W. C. Moore was appointed to revise the Constitution and By-laws.

Before adjourning, Mr. I. Steinman, of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society, thanked the Association for the recognition given his Society by the election of one of its members, Dr. D. G. Bennett, Second Vice President of the American Numismatic Association.

The Convention then adjourned and after a pleasant luncheon at the Hotel Stewart, the party met at the Festival Hall of the Exposition, where the personal representative of President Moore of the Panama-Pacific Exposition presented the American Numismatic Association with the official placque, in recognition of the Association's selection of San Francisco for its 1915 Convention. In the presentation speech, which was couched in beautiful language, the gentleman gave the history and success of the Exposition. His remarks were heartily received and appropriately replied to by Dr. J. M. Henderson, who accepted the placque on behalf of the American Numismatic Association.

It was the consensus of opinion of the members present at this Convention that if for nothing else than to receive the placque and official recognition of the A. N. A. by the exposition, the 1915 Convention was a success not only in the pleasure derived by the members who were fortunate enough to attend, but a success for the good and especially for the future success of the American Numismatic Association.

The Convention Attendance

If in point of numbers the attendance at the San Francisco Convention was not a record breaker, but what it lacked in numbers it more than made up in genuine enthusiasm and good-fellowship.

The following members registered with the Secretary:

H. O. Granberg, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.
Edgar H. Adams, Brooklyn, N. Y.
I. L. Steinman, San Francisco, Calif.
B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.
Mrs. B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.
F. J. Loer, Chicago, Ill.
Fred T. Huddart, San Francisco, Calif.
A. Reimers, San Francisco, Calif.
Farran Zerbe, Tyrone, Pa.
Dr. J. M. Henderson, Columbus, Ohio.
Mrs. J. M. Henderson, Columbus, Ohio.
George C. Arnold, Providence, R. I.
Fred Joy, Boston, Mass.
H. L. Hill, San Francisco, Calif.

In lieu of the public exhibition of coins, which was found impossible to be held, the members held every day an impromptu exhibit. The usual "wonderful tales" of finds, sales, etc., were in evidence at this Convention as at all other Conventions.

Of course, Mr. Loer, the youngster from Chicago, was there. No Convention would be complete without him. His personality simply radiates good-fellowship.

The omission of the usual Exhibition of coins would not have been missed so much only it prevented Mr. Steinman from displaying his collection of "Buffalos," especially so, since his new variety discovered on Sunday in Golden Gate Park.

Speaking of the entertaining end of the Convention, the visiting members will long remember the names of Mr. Huddart and Mr. Steinman and Mr. Nygren, the three gentlemen principally responsible for the pleasant time enjoyed by the visiting members.

The Convention also did not overlook the excellent work done by Mr. Farran Zerbe for the success of the Convention. Mr. Zerbe, being the Chief of the Souvenir Coin Department, is a very busy man, yet he sacrificed his own valuable time during the day and evening and was present at all business meetings of the Convention and also saw that the visiting members were properly taken care of during the evening.

Collection vs. Accumulation

Persons having an accumulation of coins are always surprised when informed that they are not of any value. There is nothing recondite in this. They cost the owner nothing. If they had been of value he would have been very unlikely to get them for nothing or in change. They have been in the family fifty years! This is the average age of uncurrent coins, and if not in your family certainly in some other family. Coins are made in enormous numbers and never wear out unless in circulation. But a small fraction of the population collect coins and even numismatists only want one of a kind and usually confine themselves to one or two countries. Take the "big pennies" of our own country issued from 1793 to 1857. There are only three rare dates and perhaps ten more than can be called scarce. The older dates if in **perfect** condition are more or less valuable because it seldom happens that a coin is taken from the mint wrapped in paper and put in some dry place and remains untouched for a hundred years or so. Such things do occur. One case came to our knowledge where a keg of cents received from the mint remained in a bank vault unopened for nearly one hundred years. The value of a coin is determined by several things: (a) The number of collectors interested in the series. (b) The number of the special coin originally made. (c) The condition of the piece. Thus it will be seen that the age of the piece has no bearing on its value. The coins of Alexander the Great are quite common. Edward III and Elizabeth of England are obtainable in large quantities. Roman silver and copper can be purchased at from ten to twenty-five cents each, but the 1856 nickel U. S. cent sells readily at ten dollars. Old foreign gold coins although scarce do not command high prices because there are very few collectors, with the result that those who do collect get them at their own price. Our publishers charge five to ten cents each for coins they buy at five dollars per thousand, the difference being caused by the expense of selecting and keeping in stock. Coins and stamps are both alike in the respect that a collection is always valuable and constantly increasing in price, while an accumulation is never desirable and can only be sold at a great sacrifice.—Met. Philatelist.

Establishment of the United States Mint

FROM U. S. MINT RECORDS.

Prepared for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By F. E. DUTCHER.

As early as 1782, preliminary steps were taken toward the introduction of a national coinage. Congress directed Robert Morris to lay before them his views upon the subject of coins and currency. The report was presented in January, 1782, by Thomas Jefferson, and is stated to have been the work of Governor Morris. He proposed the following table of monies:

"Ten units to be equal to one penny. Ten pence one bill. Ten bills one dollar, (about 66 cents of our present dollar). Ten dollars one crown."

Mr. Morris apologized for using the word "crown," in a country where that emblem had lost favor, by stating that his project was to have on the coin the representation of an Indian, with a bow in his left hand, and 13 arrows, emblematic of the 13 original states, in the right, with his foot on a crown.

The subject was discussed, repeatedly, in congress, but no further step was taken until 1784, when Thomas Jefferson, on behalf of a committee appointed for that purpose, brought in a report, disagreeing with that of Mr. Morris, except as to the demical system.

Mr. Jefferson found fault with the unit of Mr. Morris, first, on account of its diminutive size; second, because of its want of correspondence in value with any known coins. Instead of this, the committee proposed the Spanish dollar, as being of convenient size, capable of easy actual division, and as familiar to the minds of the people.

Upon this basis it was proposed to strike four coins, viz:

"A golden piece, of the value of ten dollars. A dollar in silver. A tenth of a dollar, also silver. A 100th of a dollar in copper."

Congress, after considerable discussion, in 1785 adopted Mr. Jefferson's report, and, in the following year, made provision for a coinage upon that basis.

Notwithstanding the fact that Congress had proceeded thus far, in establishing a national mint, there appears to have been some difficulty in bringing the proposal, or project, to a practical issue, and, in 1787, the board of treasury was reporting several propositions from private coiners for the coinage of copper.

The devices and inscriptions for this coinage were regulated by an act of Congress, as follows:

July 6, 1787:—"Resolved, that the board of treasury direct the contractor for the copper coinage of the United States to stamp on one side of each piece the following device, namely: 'Thirteen circles, linked together in form of a chain.'" This device met with much opposition from the people, who little relished the idea which the chain seemed to embody. They had too recently experienced the effects of the "chains and slavery" which follow so closly upon the skirts of royalty, to look upon such an emblem with favor, and so, many sarcastic remarks were made upon the chain in those days.

Inside of this chain was a small circle in the middle, with the motto, "United States," around it, and in the center, the words: "We Are One."

On the reverse, a dial, with the hours, expressed on the face; a meridian sun above, on one side of which was the word, "Fugio," and on the other the year in figures, "1787." The words, "Mind Your Business," inscribed beneath the dial, which has gained for this coin the name of "Franklin Penny," an appellation to which it has no claim, it being but a fanciful application, because the legend was one of those sententious utterances imputed to Benjamin Franklin, and for which he was so justly distinguished. A portion of these coppers were coined at the private mint, in New Haven, Conn., of which Abel Buel and Mr. Jarvis were partners, and the remainder at the private mint of Mr. Harmon, at Rupert, Vt., whither the dies were transported by Abel Buel.

This Abel Buel was one of the most ingenious men of his time, a native of Killingsworth, Conn. During the Revolution he constructed the first type foundry in America, at New Haven, Conn., employing 15 to 20 boys in making types. Returning from a visit to England, he erected one of the first cotton factories in New England. He died, after all his exertions in behalf of his fellowmen, in the New Haven almshouse.

The attention of the first Congress, which commenced its first session on the 4th of March, 1789, was so much engrossed in carrying out the designs of the Constitution, in the formation of federal government, that little attention was paid to the subject of a national mint, and it was not until the 15th of April, 1790, that Congress instructed the secretary, Alexander Hamilton, to prepare a plan for the establishment of a mint.

This report was submitted to Congress on the 18th of January, 1791, and on the 3rd of March, 1791, George Washington approved the joint resolution of Congress for the establishment of the United States mint.

On the 2nd of April, 1792, a further law, "establishing a mint, and regulating the coins of the United States," was approved by the president.

Washington immediately proceeded to carry out the intention of this last act, and as Philadelphia was then the seat of government, he provided for the erection of suitable buildings, by purchasing a lot of ground on Seventh street, between Market and Arch streets. At that time the lot in question was occupied by an old still house and a frame tenement.

On the 1st of July, 1792, Washington appointed the eminent philosopher, and former treasurer of Pennsylvania, David Rittenhouse, the first "director of the mint."

On the 19th of July, 1792, six men, named John Maul, John Christain Glouse, John Keyser, Nicholas Sinderling, John Biting, and Matthias Summer, commenced the work of removing the buildings which then occupied the lot.

On the 31st of July, 1792, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, the foundation stone was laid for the mint by David Rittenhouse, Esq. The foundation was completed and ready for the superstructure on Saturday, the 25th of August, 1792, and the frame-work was raised in the afternoon of that day. The work was rapidly pushed forward after this date, and the building was completed on Friday, the 7th of September, 1792.

On the Tuesday following, the 11th of September, 1792, "six pounds of old copper" were purchased for the mint, at "1s., 3d. per pound," this being the first purchase of copper for coinage.

The three coining presses were imported from Europe, and arrived at the mint on the 21st of September, 1792. These presses were put into operation in the beginning of October, and were used for striking the first half dimes, of which Washington made mention in his annual address to Congress of the 6th of November, 1792.

In 1794 the first dollar in silver was coined. The field of the reverse was proposed to be occupied by an eagle.

This question of devices and emblems for our national arms was before the house, when Matthew Lyon, a member froh the South, warmly opposed the eagle, as a monarchial bird. The king of birds, he thought, could not be a suitable representation of a country whose institutions were founded in hostility to kings.

In reply, Judge Thatcher proposed a goose, which, he said, was a most humble and republican bird, and would, in other respects, prove advantageous, inasmuch as the goslings would be convenient to put on the ten and five cent pieces.

The laughter which followed at Lyon's expense was more than he could bear. He construed this good-humored irony into an insult, and sent a challenge. The bearer delivered it to Mr. Thatcher, who read and then returned it to him, observing that he should not accept it.

"What! Will you be branded as a coward?"

"Yes, sir, if he pleases. I always was a coward, and he knew it, or he never would have challenged me."

The joke was too good to be resisted, even by the angry party. It occasioned great mirth in congressional circles, and the former cordial and gentlemanly intercourse between the parties was soon restored in a manner entirely satisfactory. This was a very happy ending and it was well said that Mr. Lyon wisely concluded there was little gained by trying to quarrel with a man who fired nothing but jokes.

On the 14th of March, 1800, the following act was passed by Congress:

"That until the 4th day of March, 1801, the mint shall remain in the city of Philadelphia, and be carried on as heretofore."

And again, another act was passed March 3rd, 1801:

"That the mint shall remain in Philadelphia until the 4th day of March, 1803."

This act was revived and continued in force and operation, for successive periods of five years, until the 4th of March, 1828, when the location of the mint at Philadelphia was made permanent, by act of May 19, 1828.

By act of Congress, May 3rd, 1835, branches of the mint of the United States were established.

The present United States mint is located on Chestnut street, in Philadelphia, Pa., between Thirteenth and Broad streets, and was erected in 1832 and made fire-proof in 1836.

The branch mints are located as follows:

One branch at the city of New Orl ns, for coinage of gold and silver, May 3, 1835.

One branch at the town of Charlotte, in Mecklenburg county, state of North Carolina, May 3, 1835, for coinage of gold only.

One branch at or near Dahlonega, in Lumpkin county, state of Georgia, May 3, 1835, for the coinage of gold only.

One branch at San Francisco, state of California, July, 1852. All denominations coined.

One branch at Denver, Colorado, April 1, 1862, for coinage of all values in gold and silver; also later the copper was minted here.

One branch at Carson City, Nevada, March 3, 1863, for coinage of gold and silver.

One branch at Dallas City, Oregon, July 4, 1864, for coinage of gold and silver.

Besides the aforenamed branches, there are three assay offices, as follows: One in New York, N. Y.; one in Boise City, Idaho; one in Helena, Mont.

The New Orleans mint suspended in 1861 and reopened 1879.

The Charlotte mint discontinued in 1861.

The Dahlonega mint discontinued in 1861.

The Carson City mint discontinued in 1893.

The Dallas City mint is discontinued.

The Oldest Fad

Some men inherit riches,
  And some through poverty,
Must labor in the ditches,
  Of many a large city;
Yet there's a common level,
  And, if the truth were known,
Each one at times will revel,
  In some fad of his own.

There is no one so humble,
  But he may have a fad,
That saves him many a grumble,
  When things are going bad;
And there's one class of scholars,
  Many of whom are famed;
Who keep track of the dollars:
  They're numismatists named.

They classify the money
  Of every place and age,
And like the bees with honey,
  In saving they engage.
A rare date on a dollar,
  Or cent, or other coin,
They always strive to "collar,"
  To with their others join.

They know Lady Godiva,
  With her nude history;
And drachm, centime, stiver,
  To them are A. B. C.

Rulers long dead and buried,
  They oft resuscitate;
Metal both odd and varied,
  They can class "while you wait."

They read all ancient writing,
  Back to the pyramids;
Any rare mint's inditing
  They want, and make high bids;
Greek, Egyptian, and Chinese,
  Coinage of ancient Rome,
With great detail and finesse,
  They're always right at home.

And if you care for trouble,
  Or wish to hear them swear,
To see their tempers bubble,
  Just scratch a coin that's rare;
Or you just try to fool them,
  With some old counterfeit;
Classing it as a "rare gem!"
  'Twon't work, one little bit.

They may be somewhat "cranky,"
  And, at times, quite a pest,
But, like Moody and Sankey,
  They often "save the best."
And all down through the ages,
  Their "specimens" they've shown;
True numismatic pages
  Which kept the record known.

F. E. DUTCHER.

Roman Coins

Many young collectors soon tire of the sameness of the American series, the chief difference between these being the different dates. For all practical purposes the cents of 1798, and 1803 are the same as those of 1799, and 1804. The types are nearly the same, the difference of a year in the date, and many dollars in the cost. To those who favor the artistic and historical, but have not yet decided which outside series to collect, a suggestion may be in order.

One of the most interesting and educational series that can attract the young collector is that of the Republican and Imperial bronze coins of Rome. Once he has started on these lines his interest will grow, and he will find his collection a never ending source of pleasure.

The cost of good, or very good specimens is reasonable. Several coins of great historical interest may be purchased for the amount that would have to be paid for an early cent in fine condition.

For instance, coins of the largest size of Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Titus, and Domitian, the five, can be bought in very good condition for less than the amount that would have to be paid for a 1799, or 1803 cent in fine condition.

The reverse types found on Roman coins are of the greatest interest, often commemorating some victory over foreign foe, or domestic event of national significance.

The divinities, Apollo, Diana, Hercules, Jupiter, Juno, Mars, Venus, and others are honored on coins of most of the rulers. Allegorical personifications such as Abundance, Concord, Eternity, Felicity, Faith, Fortune, Joy, Justice, Liberty, Peace, Piety, Victory, and Virtue, are favorite types. These facts make this series perhaps the most interesting in the coinage of the world.

When the year of Tribunitial power is given, the date of issue can readily be determined; thus these coins testify by their dates to battles fought and victories won. Interest, however, is not confined to the largest bronze. The middle and smaller sizes are equally interesting and cost less. No one, indeed, need regard this series as out of his reach because of the cost. A representative collection may be got together at small cost. One hundred Roman bronzes, assorted sizes and rulers, can be purchased in very good condition for less than fifty dollars, a price often paid for an American cent because of its date and condition. It must be remembered that the value of a coin depends on its condition. When a coin is so poor and worn that it is impossible to read the legends, it has no value, except as metal.

It is not enough to buy the coin and put it away in a cabinet. Coins require study to be properly appreciated. The youngest collector should be able to read and understand both obverse and reverse legends. This may take a little time, but it will be time well spent and never regretted.

There are good numismatic manuals published at small cost, that will explain and solve all problems. As the coins are intelligently studied, the collection will grow in interest and value.

There are reverse types of extreme rarity, but fortunatcly these are seldom the most interesting. In collecting this series the type of reverse may be considered, and those coins purchased that appeal most strongly to the fancy of the collector.

S. S. HEAL.

Panama-Pacific Cammemorative Coins

In the series of Commemorative Coins authorized by Act of Congress for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, there is seen for the first time a $50 Gold piece authorized by the Government of the United States.

The issue of this denomination is limited to not over 3000 pieces and it is provided that one-half of the issue shall be octagonal in shape. These are the first octagonal coins to be produced by the Government of the United States.

The coining of the first $50 Gold piece was an event of considerable celebration and local interest at the San Francisco Mint. Representatives of the Government, State, City, and Exposition, together with notable representatives of foreign governments, were present at the coining.

In addition to the two shapes of the $50 Gold pieces, there are included in this series One-Half Dollar in silver, One Dollar in gold, and Two and One-Half Dollars in gold. On the Gold Dollar appears an artist's ideal of Labor, this being the first time the sons of toil have been honored on the coinage of any nation.

The following prices have been established for these coins: Half Dollar, silver, $1 each; One Dollar, gold, $2 each; Two and One-Half Dollars, gold, $4 each; Fifty Dollars, gold, round or octagonal, $100 each, net. Leather cases are supplied for each Fifty-Dollar piece.

All of the coins are sold for the benefit of the Exposition by its Department of Official Coins and Medals, the premium being applied for general Exposition purposes.

The large advance reservation and the continued demand for them promise a very successful distribution.

The following description of the coins by the designers has been supplied to us by the Exposition:

HALF DOLLAR, SILVER—Designs by Charles E. Barber; issue limited to 200,000 pieces. **Obverse:** Columbia scattering flowers; attendant with cornucopia to signify the boundless resources of the West. Background, Golden Gate illumined by the rays of the setting sun. Inscription: PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—1915. **Reverse:** Shield of the United States surmounted by American Eagle and supported on the one side by a branch of Oak, emblem of strength and stability, and on the other side by the olive branch of peace. Inscription: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—HALF DOLLAR—IN GOD WE TRUST.

ONE DOLLAR, GOLD—Designs by Charles Keck; issue limited to 25,000 pieces. **Obverse:** Head representing Labor, through whose efforts the Panama Canal became a reality. Inscription: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—1915. **Reverse:** Two dolphins, indicating the meeting of the two oceans, surround ONE DOLLAR—PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION SAN FRANCISCO.

QUARTER EAGLE ($2½), GOLD—Designs by Charles E. Barber; issue limited to 10,000 pieces. **Obverse:** Columbia seated on the mythical Sea Horse. Columbia with the Caduceus, the emblem of trade and commerce, inviting the nations of the world to use the new way from Ocean to Ocean. Inscription: PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—1915. **Reverse:** American Eagle on a standard and bearing the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—2½ Dol.

QUINTUPLE EAGLE $50, GOLD—Designs by Robert Aitken; issue limited to 3,000 pieces ROUND and OCTAGONAL. The first Fifty-Dollar gold pieces to be issued under the authority of the United States. The motives used in these coins were selected by the sculptor because of their simple dignity and far-reaching significance, as well as for their decorative pattern. **Obverse:** Minerva, the Goddess of Wisdom, Skill, Contemplation, Spinning, Weaving and of Agriculture. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—FIFTY DOLLARS—MCMXV. In field, IN GOD WE TRUST. **Reverse:** Owl, sacred to Minerva, the accepted symbol of Wisdom, perched upon a branch of western pine. PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION—SAN FRANCISCO. In field, E PLURIBUS UNUM. The designer's initials, R. A. Dolphins, suggesting as they encircle the central field, the uninterrupted water route made possible by the Panama Canal, occupy the angles of the octagonal coin.

Panama-Pacific Official Medal

The Official Souvenir Medal of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was authorized by act of Congress, design selected by the Government's Exhibit Board, and is produced in the Government's minting demonstration at the Exposition.

Designs are by Robert Aitken, N. A.

The obverse shows a winged Mercury, the Messenger of Heaven, the first of inventors, the furtherer of industry and of commerce, opening the locks of the Canal through which passes the Argo, symbol of navigation. Upon her canvas the setting sun is reflected as she sails for the west.

The quotation "On! Sail On!" from Joaquin Miller's poem to Columbus, is used as a suggestion of the uninterrupted voyage made possible by the Canal. There is also the inscription, "To commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal, M C M X V."

Upon the reverse is shown the central motive, The Earth, around which are entwined two female forms suggesting the two hemispheres, holding in their hands cornucopias typifying abundance. These are so arranged in the design as to become one, the idea being that the Canal brings together the wealth of the world.

Below these flying forms is shown the sea-gull, the bird of the Canal Zone. The inscription upon this side reads, "The Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, California, M C M X V."

Sold for Exposition account by its Department of Official Coins and Medals. Bronze: Plain, oxidized or gold-plated, 25 cents each; coin silver, $1 each.

We are pleased to inform our readers that we now have the Panama-Pacific coins and medals for sale and I will be pleased to supply them at the same prices as sold by the Exposition, as we note that these coins are advertised at other markets at an advance. Kindly mail your orders to B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas, who will give them personal and immediate attention.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel Friday evening, August 13, 1915, President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Beesley, Belden, Blake, Boyd, Frey, Dr. Gignoux, Jaegg, Kennedy, Kohler, Nangle, Niklewicz, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Wormser, and as guests of the evening, Messrs. Satterlee, A. A. Love of Syracuse and J. M. Connor, Jr., of Metuchen, N. J.

The Secretary called the roll. The reading of the last minutes was dispensed with.

The Secretary reported the receipt of communications from Messrs. DeLagerberg, Duffield, Savage and Chapman, the acceptance of Mr. Schulman of his election to the Club together with a letter received from him, commending the work of the Club; and also the receipt of two numbers of Mr. Heaton's personal publication, "The Nut Shell."

The Secretary also presented a bound volume and two pamphlets received from corresponding Member Cagiati of his work on "The Coins of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies." These books were received with the general approval of the members, and the Secretary was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Cagiati for his valuable contribution.

Mr. Boyd, in behalf of the Executive Committee, announced that the subject of the next meeting would be "General discussions, and an exhibition of coins and medals." He also announced that the entire issue of President Smith Medals had been sold.

Through Mr. Kohler, a contribution to the library of the Club was received from Mr. H. F. Williams, being his monograph, "The Gold Coinage of Latin America." The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge its receipt with thanks.

Mr. Frey brought up the question how books can be borrowed from the library of the Club, and was advised that it required the approval of the Executive Committee to the curator.

The question of more frequent publications of the transactions of the Club in an official manner was referred to the Executive Committee. Two new applications for membership were received. President Smith, in behalf of the Club, extended a hearty welcome to the guests of the evening.

The business meeting of the Club then adjourned for the purpose of listening to a very interesting address by Mr. H. Niklewicz on "Actium; Antony's Defeat; with coins of Augustus and Antony." In connection with the subject of Mr. Niklewicz's address, he exhibited a larger number of silver and bronze coins, and Mr. Proskey also showed a very large series of silver coins.

Mr. Henry Chapman had on exhibition two coins, one of them a very well preserved Denarius showing the heads of both Marc Antony and Cleopatra.

There were also a large number of other exhibits not related to the subject of the evening, as follows:

By Mr. Proskey: A short note of the last issue of 1864.

By Mr. Kohler: A round $50.00 and the $2.50 gold pieces of the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Italy Jubilee 5 lire, commemorating fifty years of Italian Unity, 1861/1911.

By Mr. Leve: A very large series of bank notes and paper currency, both United States and foreign money. Among them were the following: A series

of India proofs, various denominations of Oil City Bank. A receipt for Commutation Money. A Bill of Exchange with original signature of Robert Morris. Also a large series of Paper Emergency Currency issued as a result of the European War, among them issues of Finland, Gibraltar, Algeria and a Peru one pound and half pound notes. All these were beautifully mounted, some with leather bindings.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel, Friday evening, September 10, 1915, President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. Belden, Boyd, S. Hudson Chapman, Frey, Jaegg, Kennedy, Niklewicz, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood, Wormser, Findlay, Sackett, and as guests Messrs. Mabbott and Ormsby.

The Secretary called the roll and read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved as read. Mr. Proskey made some remarks in regard to the work of the New York Store Cards Committee, and this as well as the Paper Money and Publicity Committee reported progress.

Mr. Boyd in behalf of the Committee on Improvement of the United States Coinage reported that they would have a report in about three months.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a communication from the Brooklyn Eagle Almanac and the receipt of the Monograph on "Coins and Medals of Transylvania in New York Collection" by M. Wormser, given to the Library of the Club.

The Treasurer reported balance in the treasury of $182.06.

Mr. Boyd in behalf of the Executive Committee called special attention to the rule of the Club that no fixed scale prices were to be given in connection with exhibits, which had been violated at the last meeting. He promised a report on the subject of an official publication at the next meeting. He also announced that at the next meeting the election of the Nominating Committee would take place and a full attendance would be desirable. As the subject for the next meeting, he announced "Tokens and Medals of Martin Van Buren."

The Membership Committee reported the receipt of the application of Mr. John M. Connor, Jr.

Mr. Swanson, in behalf of the Medallic Art Committee, reported the issue of the following medals:

A commemorative medal by the Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite upon its "International Conference of the World," Washington, D. C., 1912, in Golden Bronze, Sterling Silver, and Solid Gold, which were just issued.

The official award medals International Dry Farming Congress, Denver, 1915.

Both of the above medals were struck by Dieges & Clust, New York, N. Y.

Bronze medal struck in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Murphy Varnish Co. Obv. Portrait of Franklin Murphy, retired head of the firm and ex-governor of New Jersey, with name around head. Rev., Representation in relief, of sun dial erected at Summer home of Franklin Murphy, a gift from employ s of the firm. In the field the inscription "Commemorating the Fiftieth anniversary of the Murphy Varnish Company, 1865-1915."

Models for both sides made by J. M. Swanson, dies cut and medals struck by the Whitehead & Hoag Co., Newark, N. J.

Under the head of new business, Mr. Frey suggested that at all meetings exhibitors of coins make some explanatory remarks in connection with same.

President Smith then told of his recent automobile trip, during which he passed through Williamstown and Hanover, where he came across Numismatic reminders in the shape of coin books for sale, and advertisements of certain dealer members of our Club.

The President then welcomed the guests of the evening, and Messrs. Ormsby and Sackett made some interesting remarks in reply. The business meeting then adjourned for the purpose of examining the exhibits of the evening.

Exhibits of the Evening.

Mr. Proskey showed a series of about 120 silver and 50 bronze coins of Mark Antony, Julius Caesar, Caesar Augustus, and Cleopatra in further connection with Mr. Niklewicz's address of the previous meeting. Among them were numerous portraits of Julius Caesar and all these four rulers; one large bronze showing the heads of Julius Caesar and Augustus back to back; series of Mark Antony, of his various legions. Praetorian coins of Augustus, coins with the portrait of Augustus Caesar on the obverse, and on the reverse various representations of the Capricorn, Crocodile (upon the conquest of Egypt) and Allegories of Victory; also one coin of Mark Antony and Lucius.

Mr. S. H. Chapman showed a very fine collection of about 50 U. S. silver dollars, mostly in uncirculated condition from 1794 to 1858, among them several specimens of 1794, of 1797 uncirculated and 1851 and 1852 uncirculated.

By Mr. Mabbott: Two coins of "Augustus restored" by Nerva and by Tiberius.

By Mr. Swanson: A lead impression of both the obverse and reverse of the Franklin Murphy Medal mentioned in his report.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

The 83rd meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was held at the Masonic Club, Tuesday, September 7, 1915, President L. G. Amberg presiding. The following members were present: Messrs. L. G. Amberg, Woolsey, Merritt, French, Plumb, Bauer, Yawger, Borradaile, Stanley, W. H. Amberg.

Mr. Bauman L. Belden of New York presented the R. N. A. with a copy of his work, "War Medals of the Confederacy."

Mr. Harry F. Williams of Chicago presented the R. N. A. and the library of the A. N. A., each with a copy of his work on "The Gold Coins of Latin America."

A hearty vote of thanks was extended to both gentlemen for their generous gifts.

Motion made and carried that our collection of coins which was loaned to the Rochester Historical Society be transferred to the Rochester Municipal Museum on a long term loan.

On account of a convention being held in Rochester, our usual room in the Hotel Rochester was occupied, and upon the invitation of Mr. Merritt, the meeting was held at the Masonic Club.

Meeting adjourned to September 21, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Outing and Special Meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association

Wednesday afternoon, August 11th, about a dozen members of the Rochester Numismatic Association met at the place of business of Mr. G. J. Bauer, where three automobiles were waiting to take the party to dinner at Willowbank Inn, about three miles west of Batavia—a run of about forty miles.

Before dinner was served, a special meeting was called. Mr. Merritt made a motion that, in view of the fact that Dr. French, at the Springfield Convention last year, had extended an invitation to the A. N. A. to hold their 1916 Convention in Rochester, N. Y., the invitation be renewed to hold the National Convention in Rochester next year. As none of the R. N. A. members will be at the San Francisco Convention to extend the invitation personally, the Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Waldo C. Moore, General Secretary of the A. N. A.

After the meeting we sat down to as fine a chicken dinner as could be served, with appetites sharpened by our ride so that full justice was done to everything set before us. A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Burkart and staff for their efforts. A vote of thanks was also extended to the members who furnished the automobiles. The party broke up about 8:30, when we started for home, all meeting at the Hotel Rochester.

English Sovereigns are Being Melted into U. S. Dollars at Philadelphia Mint

New York, Sept. 25.—You have heard a lot lately about the dollar ruling the world, and some undoubtedly have been puzzled by all this talk of drop in foreign exchange, balance of trade and the like. But if you had been down in the big United States assay office last week you could have seen something that a child could understand—£2,000,000 of English gold disappearing and rough, dirty gold bricks taking their places. The bricks will soon become good American money.

New York has recently got three gold shipments from England, each of about $20,000,000, brought by a fast British cruiser to Halifax and then carried overland with elaborate precautions.

The first two consignments were in United States coin—some we have had to ship over to Europe in other years when the trade balance was the other way. Then the Bank of England evidently ran out of eagles, for in the last shipment were $7,850,000 in United States coins and $11,615,000 in sovereigns.

The British treat our eagles most shamefully. They ship them by weight. To bring each bag up to the required heft, they chop coins into many triangular bits and add these piece by piece until the scales tip.

The sub-treasury here credits the importer only with the whole coins, and the chips are turned over to the assay office, which melts them up into bricks. These chips amount to several thousand dollars in the recent three big shipments.

As to the sovereigns, the assay office found itself with 2,550,000 on its hands. The importers were anxious to get the benefit of the amount.

A law has been passed allowing them to be credited with the sovereigns as bullion without melting them up, but there has been a dispute over the deductions to be made for wear on the coins, dirt and other considerations, which could not be settled, and this has made the law a dead letter.

Uncle Sam charges $1 per 1,000 ounces for melting the gold. This does not cover the cost by a lot.

It takes one's breath away at first to look around the furnace room of the assay office, for gold is lying about in an apparently most careless way. The sovereigns are heaped into wooden troughs. The furnace men wear heavy woolen shirts and asbestos gloves to protect their bodies from the intense dead heat.

The gold is melted in rough three-gallon crucibles, which rest upon a grate on which jets spray crude oil. A fierce flame beats around the crucibles.

A workman seizes a few pounds of gold coins, protects his face with one hand and throws them into the retort. In a few minutes the mass is a golden liquid.

Another workman ladles the precious metal into what looks like extra large muffin tins. These molds are greased as a cook would, too, and the lard flames up as the hot gold strikes.

The 2,000,000 sovereigns are now nothing more than a stack of dirty, charcoal-smudged bricks, each worth about $7,000. They are smaller than a building brick, but weigh between 25 and 30 pounds apiece.

They are not as careless as they look at the assay office, however. The gold given to each furnace man is weighed before being given to him and the bricks he produces must contain just that much metal, with a slight allowance for the disappearance of part of the alloy.

In a few days a call for gold will come here from the mint at Philadelphia. Then part of these bricks, erstwhile British sovereigns, will go out on their way to become good American eagles, an additional bulwark to the world supremacy of the American dollar.

U. S. Mints Turning Out Coins for Other Lands

"Made in the United States" might in all truth be stamped on the coins of nearly a dozen of the countries of Latin America in which a shopper would try in vain to buy merchandise bearing that slogan. For though the United States does not ship great amounts of goods to the countries between the Rio Grande and Cape Horn, it does supply them with a large part of their money, says the Washington Star, and this, in spite of the Spanish phrases and foreign emblems that it bears, is the product of Uncle Sam's own mints.

The United States government, unknown to many of its citizens, who can hardly be expected to know all of its statutes by heart, was authorized by law more than forty years ago to engage in the business of minting money for foreign countries. Under the authorization the government has turned out millions of foreign coins in its big money-making establishments.

Just now, according to Robert W. Woolley, director of the mint, the bulk of the work being done in the mints is either under contract for one of our neighbors to the south or for the Philippines, our foster government across the Pacific. Aside from the mere matter of the demand of these countries for

minting services, the concentration on foreign work at this time arises from the fact—however strange it may appear to the average man or woman—that we now have more money than we need in circulation in the United States.

This is indicated by the fact that there are on deposit in the treasuries and sub-treasuries approximately $26,000,000 in subsidiary silver coins, pieces of less value than one dollar. Such coins are minted solely for use in circulation, and are not ordinarily held as stocks, like silver dollars, against which paper certificates are issued.

The minting work for foreign countries now under way in the United States is being done at Philadelphia for Cuba, Salvadore, Ecuador and Costa Rica. The San Francisco mint is at work chiefly on Philippine coinage. Only at the Denver mint is domestic work solely under way, and there only nickels and one-cent pieces are being turned out.

Since the authorization to coin money for foreign countries was given to the mints by Congress in January, 1874, more than 100,000,000 pieces of gold, silver and baser metals have been minted for countries in North, South and Central America and the West Indies, and for Hawaii before its annexation.

All foreign minting by the United States is done at a price that just covers the cost. There are two reasons for the government engaging in the business; it puts this country in a position to do neighborly acts and it allows us to keep our coining equipment and force of operatives busy during periods when it would otherwise be necessary to suspend operations. The decreasing need for mints with our vast accumulations of coins, the growth of banking and the use of paper money is shown by the fact that of the seven mints that have been in existence in the history of the country, only three are now equipped for turning out coins, the others having been either abandoned or turned into assay offices.

Old American Coins, Hoarded Abroad, Unearthed by War

Numerous old American coins, some of them bearing date as far back as 1830, have been offered to customs officials here recently by passenger arriving on ships from France and England. These coins, mainly twenty-five and fifty cent pieces, give indication of having been in circulation but little, suggesting that the war and scarcity of money have led to the unearthing of coins that have been kept as souvenirs. The money is given to the customs officers in payment of the special war tax stamp of 25 cents that is attached to all incoming manifests before baggage is released.

Gold Coins are Found in Ruins of House

Peekskill, N. Y.—James Hooper, while digging out the ruins of a burned homestead at Tompkins Corners, near Peekskill, thought he had struck a gold mine.

He began picking up all sorts of American and foreign gold coins. Before he finished his day's work he had found 357 coins of various species, but all of gold. It developed that Thomas Upp, an author, who lost his life when the homestead burned some time ago, had kept a numismatic collection. This accounted for the discovery of $2,200 in gold in the ruins.

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Gold Dollar. 1863 Ex. Fine. Very rare..... 29.00

" " 1864 About uncirculated 21.00

" " 1865 Very fine 27.00

" " 1872 Brilliant proof 9.50

" " 1888 Brilliant proof 3.10

" " 1860 S. mint 7.00

" " 1858 S. mint 5.25

" " 1875 Plugged, but date fine. (Record for this date $100.00) 11.00

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WHOLE NUMBER 71

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

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NOVEMBER, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

The following is merely a *"hint"*
as to the contents of the

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Tokens and Medals of Halifax and District

By S. H. HAMER.

During the 17th century traders and others in this town and district, followed what was in vogue in most parts of the country, and issued their tokens for one half-penny, and in a few instances for one penny, and for a farthing.

The period of this currency was from 1648 to 1672, when Charles II. issued copper halfpence and farthings, and by proclamation, cried down the provincial tokens.

The earliest date on these tokens of Halifax and district is 1666, the latest 1670.

Having in mind the fact that these traders' tokens, very largely supplied the need for small change at the period (the farthings of Lord Harrington and his successors never having been freely received although issued by permission from the King), it may appear strange that specimens are not commonly met with, as are those thick pennies of 1797, and the heavy copper currency of 1799, 1806, or 1807. But records exist of certain corporate bodies, which, having issued tokens "for the benefit of ye poor," or "for necessary change," being heavily fined, and having also to pay legal expenses connected with the settlement of the matter; these circumstances, coupled with the recently delivered proclamation, may have caused the issuers of local tokens to feel that safety only lay in having the tokens returned, and the issue as completely destroyed as possible.

Having this in mind, the thought struck me that possibly a meeting of the issuers was held; and as Richard Doliffe, of "ye Swan," was one of the issuers, I have pictured the gathering as at his hostel. I have taken the liberty of regarding those only as being present of whose issue I have a token. Seated in the chair is John Brearcliffe, the Apothecary, on the obverse of his token appears a skull and cross-bones, with the motto, as issuing from the skull RESPICE FINEM. In Watson's History of Halifax there is, at page 454, a short reference to John Brearcliffe. Miles Bateman, what was he? for his token gives no indication of his trade, being simply an inscription on both obverse and reverse.

John Deane, and Gabriell Learoyd, had conjointly issued "THEIR HALF PENY," this was in 1667; the year following we find that Deane has dropped from the rank of issuer, and that Gabriell Learoyd now issued a token, using the old die bearing his name, and the inscription "THEIR HALF PENY,"

with a new reverse, centrally, an heraldic rose, and the legend HOLLIFAX G. L. 68.

As these issuers are supposed to be met as "ye Swan," and as mine host was one of the number, he also was present, and, no doubt, would testify to the advantage he had derived from the local currency. His token has on the obverse a representation of a swan, legend RICHARD DOLLIFFE, reverse, HIS HALFE PENNY, legend, IN HALLIFAX, 1666." John Exley, on whose token appears a Cross patte, surmounted with a Crown (Query: Has he any connection with the Cross Inn? or is he the John Exley, of

Halifax, who owned the closes called Lister Lands, near to Goldsmith's Grave, and who, in 1650, was one of the jurors at the trial of Abraham Wilkinson, John Wilkinson, and Anthony Mitchell, who were condemned and executed April 30th, 1650, ? (see Halifax and its Gibbet Law, 1708.) John Learoyd's token is dated 1667, and bears the Arms of the Grocers' Company, by which we may infer what his trade or business was.

In 1667, Samuel Newton (the name is almost obliterated) issued his halfpenny token: on the reverse is a shield, bearing a pair of cross-bones.

Edward Novble, at "ye Cook," issued his halfpenny tokens, and would be able to confirm the statement of Dolliffe as to the advantage derived from the local issue.

John Rhodes issued farthing tokens; on the obverse is a lion rampant, and on the reverse the initials of the issuer and his wife, legend, IN HALIFAX.

Robert Whatmough was a carrier, and on his token a pack horse is shown as representing his trade.

He served as one of the jurors for the Ovenden Manor Court in 1681, and purchased part of the Murgatroyd estate. He signed his name with a X. (See paper by T. W. Hanson, page 102, of the publication for 1910.)

These constitute the token, being strictly of Halifax, of which I have been able to secure specimens.

Those issuers who were unable to be present at this imaginary gathering were John Farrar, Jonathan Kighley, Timothy Olearoid, John Parker, Jeremiah Worall, and John Benson. As regards the issuers residing in the district, the following were present:—Abraham Slater, of Ealand; his token has on the obverse a fleur de lys. Susanna Wilson, of Leightlife, on whose halfpenny token are a pair of fire-tongs; "Michael Hasleden, of Ovenden, near Halifax," some of whose tokens are roughly octagonal in shape; three birds appear on the reverse. What his trade was is not stated.

John Clayton, mine host of ye Swan, Ribondin.

John Nowell, Grocer, of Heptonstall, John Gersed, of Stainland, on whose halfpenny token, a trotting horse appears, and Hugh Ramsden, of the same place, who issued penny tokens.

All these, whose tokens I have been able to secure, I have represented as meeting to consider what course they should adopt in view of the procla-

mation which, after declaring to be current the new halfpence and farthings of regal issue continued, "And if any person or persons, bodies politique or corporate, shall after the first day of September next, presume to make, vend or utter, any pence halfpence and farthings, or other pieces of brass, copper or other base metal, other than the halfpence and farthings of this our Royal Proclamation authorized and allowed, or shall offer to counterfeit any of our halfpence or farthings, we shall hold all such offenders utterly inexcusable, and shall cause their contempt of our laws and government to be chastised with exemplary severity.

"Given at our Court of Whitehall, the 16th day of August in the 24th year of our reign, 1672.

"God save the King."

This proclamation, and the fact that certain "bodies corporate" had, in 1670 sued for the King's pardon, for issuing tokens, impressed on those present the desirability of promptly calling in their tokens.

No official record is known of such a gathering, but we may well imagine that the issue of local tokens was not concluded without some mutual understanding among the issuers.

No issue took place in the 18th century, and in the 19th century only the engraved tokens of Robert Wilson, of Sowerby Bridge, viz., for half a guinea, and for seven shillings. He and Gamwell Sutcliffe, of Stoneshay Gate, issued printed promissory tickets or notes for three shillings and sixpence; and thus ended the local currency. (Obviously Bankers' notes are not classed in the same category as they have a legalized existence.)

I have on exhibition a number of medals, several of which are of local interest:—

A bronze medal awarded at the 1851 exhibition to Alfred Hamer for press-paper. A sample book of glazed pressing boards, and business card. The "boards" or "press paper" was supplied to Messrs. Kirks and Jonathan Smith and Sons, dyers and finishers, Halifax, also to others at Bradford, etc.

A bronze medal having on the obverse a finely expressed portrait of the Prince of Wales, and Princess Alexandra, reverse, a view of the Town Hall, opened Aug. 4th, 1863, by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

The same obverse die was used with a reverse die showing a view of All Souls' Church, Halifax; these were struck in white metal, and given to the scholars; they were worn suspended by a ribbon. The dies for these medals were engraved and the medals struck at the manufactory of J. Moore, a noted medalist, of Birmingham. To celebrate the same visit, there were struck white metal medals for the children attending the Parish Church Schools. The obverse presents portraits of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the reverse a view of the Parish Church, Halifax. These were from dies by Ottley, of Birmingham, but are not so well executed as the medals by J. Moore.

On the occasion of the visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Halifax, to open the Royal Infirmary, July 25th, 1896, quantities of white metal medals were sold; also what appeared to be bronze medals, but what are really white metal colored or lacquered bronze. A. Fenwick was the die-sinker. The obverse shows portraits of the Duke and Duchess of York, and on the reverse is a view of the Royal Infirmary.

On the occasion of the coronation of King Edward VII., Alderman William Brear, Mayor, presented the school-children with white metal medals; on the obverse are portraits of the King and Queen, and on the reverse, within a sunk circle, the Borough Arms and Crest, between heraldic roses, below, on a label, the word HALIFAX, on a plaque, is shown a spinning-wheel, to the left an olive branch, to the right one of oak. ALD. W. BREAR, MAYOR. The initials of the die-sinker, A.F., B'M., appear on the obverse. I got six medals struck from these dies, in bright copper.

On the occasion of the coronation of the present King and Queen medals were presented to the school children. Obverse: Portraits of the King and Queen; legend: KING GEORGE V. & QUEEN MARY; die-sinker's initials: W.J.D., B'HAM. Reverse: The Arms and Crest of the Borough of Halifax, JUNE, 1911. Inner legend: PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF HALIFAX. On a label: ALDERMAN & MRS. F. WHITLEY THOMPSON. Outer legend: TO COMMEMORATE THE CORONATION OF KING GEORGE V. By the kind permission of Alderman Whitley Thompson, Mr. Lister Horsfall, who had the ordering of the medals, got eight struck in bright copper for me. On the occasion of the Coronation in 1911 the Hipperholme Urban District Council had a reverse die sunk, to be used with an ordinary stock obverse die by Fattorini, Bradford.

The character of type of design and lettering of the obverse and reverse are distinctly different, that of the obverse need not be commented on. The reverse is: Arms and crest (the latter being shown with a "background" gules that is red, though why such should occur I am at a loss to know). Legend or title on a raised circle: HIPPERHOLME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, 1894. Outer legend: THOMAS HOLGATE, J.P., CHAIRMAN. JUNE 22, 1911. G. WHARTON THOMPSON, CLERK.

I was informed that 12 only, in copper bronze, were struck, and I received a list of names of those who had purchased specimens.

A silver medal for regular and punctual attendance at the Halifax Recreative Evening Classes, purchased in a pawnbroker's shop.

Official Coronation Medals in silver and copper, 1911.

Coronation Medals of Edward VII.

Coronation celebration Medals of Glastonbury, Wells, and Winchester.

Medals to commemorate the visit of the King and Queen to Winchester, July 1st, 1912.

Silver medal to commemorate the Investiture of the Prince of Wales at Carnarvon Castle, July xiii, 1911.

Private Tokens struck for the exhibitor, also his Silver Wedding Tokens.

Private Token of W. J. Davis, J.P.; on the obverse is a view of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-on-Avon.

A large white metal medal to commemorate the centenary of the firm of John Hadwen and Sons, Kebroyd Mills, 1900.

Official medals, to celebrate the sixtieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria.

A medal to commemorate the destruction by fire, of the choir of York Minster, February 2nd, 1829.

And Proofs of the medals given to students at the Technical College, by the members of the Halifax Branch of the Engineering Employers' Federation.

Notes for Young Collectors

In collecting old and rare coins the first thing the beginner should learn is that the value of a rare coin depends almost entirely upon its condition.

Little defects, slight scratches and dents, mean much to an expert, though to the novice they seem of no consequence.

The ideal coin for the collector is one that has not been handled enough to remove what is called the "mint bloom."

The proper way to pick up or hold a coin is by the edges. Fine specimens and especially pieces that have never been in circulation show finger marks very readily and as these marks cannot be removed, the value of the coin may be greatly reduced by handling it as though it were spending money.

If you want to be a coin collector, therefore, you must first learn that a rare coin is not a pocket piece, but an art treasure.

Do not try to clean a coin. The chances are that you may ruin it if you do. It is better to leave the rust and corrosion (if that is the trouble), just as it is. Acids and scouring will spoil any piece of money.

Sometimes sweet oil will improve a rusty or corroded coin, but one must be very, very careful. Too much oil will make the coin gummy and damage will be done in removing the surplus.

It is a good plan to use soft tissue paper as wrappers or to put your coins away in little bags of chamois skin, made just the right size.

Some Curious Coins

Ranging From British Threepenny Bit to Huge Yap Dollar.

The threepenny coin is the smallest in circulation in Britain, and it looks very small indeed when placed side by side with their largest coin—the five-shilling piece; the latter is, in fact, twenty times the weight of the threepenny.

But what would the threepenny piece look like if placed side by side with a coin over two feet in diameter and weighing eighty pounds? Such coins have, indeed, been coined, or rather quarried, by the chiefs of the Island of Yap, one of the group of Caroline Islands in the South Pacific. These "Yap dollars" are circular discs of coralline rocks, some three inches or four inches in thickness, and of a dull white color.

But, in speaking of big coins, the one possessing the highest intrinsic value of any circulated in recent times is probably the gold ingot, or "loof" of Anam, a French colony in Eastern Africa. This coin, a flat gold one, was worth $325, and had its value written on it in Indian ink.

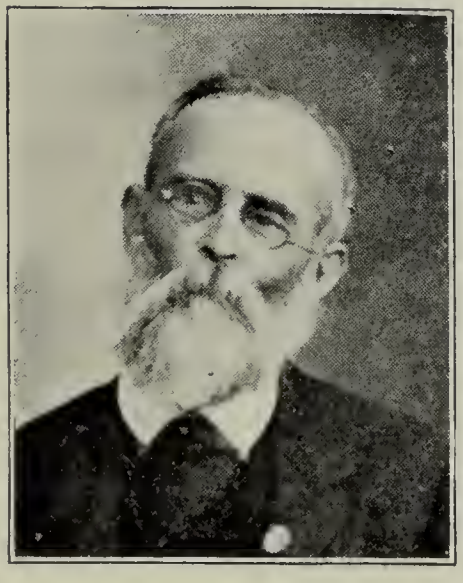
Of other big coins, mention may be made of the obang of Japan, worth $50; the benda of Ashanti, worth $43, and the California fifty-dollar piece.

Coins and My Life

By F. A. HASSLER, M. D., PH. D.

[The many friends of Dr. Hassler, especially the older members of the A. N. A., will be interested to read these notes. Dr. Hassler has always been an exponent of Numismatics of the more scientific and historical nature. His contributions to the Numismatic press have been numerous and always of an instructive nature.]

When I was a boy I lived in Washington City and my position as a page in the United States Senate threw me among many noted and worthy people. It is pleasant for an old man to look back on the days of his youth and recall little by little the friendly rivalry in connection with the gathering of a collection of coins. So as I sit in my old arm chair I seem to see Walter, son of Lyman Trumbull, Senator from Illinois, come to me with something in his fist and say, "What will you give for what I hold in my hand?"



F. A. HASSLER, M. D., Ph. D.

"Oh, no," said I. "You don't catch me in that way. I don't swap knives without sight, without seeing. Say, is it a knife or a Cent piece?

Then he held up an "Eagle Cent," the extremely rare one with an Eagle flying to left and no inscription nor date, and on the reverse, tobacco, corn and cotton with the words "ONE CENT."

"Well," said I. "That John the Baptist (when collecting, we boys always called a cent piece by that name; see John I, 6) is a queer one, surely. As it has no head it must have been after Salome danced (you see, I went to Sunday School). Well, I will give you a quarter for it."

"Done," said he, and the two coins changed owners.

I would like to have that coin in my fist now, but, alas, I took it to old man "Mason's Antiquarian Shop" and he gave me fifty cents for it. This was before I had become a true collector and had no way to know the value of coins.

The old copper cents were in circulation at that time and the butchers in what was called "The Old Marsh Market," received many of them from poor people for scrap meat. These they did up in rolls of twenty-five and were pleased to exchange them for silver money. So I would take my quarters and a cigar-box and visit the market frequently. When I had more cash than usual, I would come home with my box nearly full, and what a grand time I had picking out the dates to complete my series. Sometimes there would be coins of other countries in the box, and as to Hard Times Tokens they were common, especially those with a running Jack. In this way I collected a cent of every date except the one of 1799.

By trading and buying from the boys I collected quite a number of very interesting foreign coins and medals and friends often helped to increase my collection. My father having been a surgeon in the Navy, we had a number

of officer friends who had traveled much in foreign parts and they were often generous, even one of them giving me a handful of ancient coins from Rome. When I received these, I had "a grand collection" and bragged over the other boys.

From one of the boys I bought a fine bronze medal of Pope Paul II (1464-1471) for twenty-five cents (I was getting $2.40 and extras a day as page), and last year I sold it for $1.00. That is, I kept it for fifty years, so when sold I asked my youngest son what profit I made at 6% This sum I will leave with my readers.

Patriotic Americans are proud of the fact that the first galvanizing into life of the Japanese nation was due to the visit of Commodore Perry in 1853. This visit caused the Japanese to send an embassy to Washington in 1860, and I very well remember that hearing that the strange looking and strangely clad people were in the city, the Senate adjourned and we pages followed the carriages, in which were the curious strangers, to Willard's Hotel. At this time, I scrambled with the other boys for things the Japs threw out of the hotel windows, and my prizes were a curious picture which lies before me and the then rare oval "tempo."

Shortly after this time the "wander-lust" seized me, and my brother having offered me a good price for my coins became the happy possessor of most of them. When the great reaper's scythe cut my brother down, in the midst of an active life, most of my boyhood's collection was returned to me and formed the nucleus around which the many coins that fill my cabinet drawers have gathered.

As to writing upon Numismatics it was many years before I could persuade myself that I knew enough to try to enlighten others. A number of short notes on various subjects were followed in June, 1906, by an article on "The Auction Sale of Coins" in the Numismatist. This article brought me several letters from prominent Numismatists telling me that they had similar experiences and agreed with me in every particular, and one from a New York dealer who thought the coat fitted him and allowed his angry passions to rise to such an extent that he would give me "far greater advertisement" than I had ever had before. What this advertisement was to be I never have known.

Not long after this I entered into an agreement with our late lamented Association president, Dr. Heath, to supply the Numismatist with a series of articles on "German History and Small Coins." The first of the series appeared under the name of "German Pfennigs" in the Numismatist for September, 1906, and under the heading "German History and Small Coins," Number XIII was finished in the November number, 1909.

In March of 1908 I published "Coins, What They Are" in Redfield's Stamp Weekly, but the printer left out so many words and made such nonsense out of some of the sentences that I was sorry it had been published.

I have supplied the publisher of Mehl's Numismatic Monthly with "Some Thoughts Anent Our Association (Sept., 1908), and "Coins: Why They Are Interesting" and some others.

These Numismatic writings are a work of love, and I may say that such is the case with all my writings except when asked to write at so much a page, which is a handicap to any writer, but here I am in love with my subject and I have become more in love with it since I have received numerous

letters from Numismatists approving of my methods of connecting the study of history and of coins.

I have called attention in one of my writings to the use the latest school of historians make of the faculty of imagination, and it has been my pleasure to take a coin, say of the great Marcus Aurelius, and knowing when it was coined, follow him in his wars, see where he was at the time of issue and the effect of his success or his reverses on the makers of the coin. In doing this, the place of mintage is important, and the coinage of the reign of Hadrian is rich for such study.

Money Display for Bank Publicity

Some bankers are playing to the spirit of we "money made Americans" by making displays of money that attract attention, create favorable comment and command publicity. It may only be a short time display of lucre such as a $5,000 or $10.000 bill back of the glass in the teller's cage and regarding which a ruralite recently said he "thought they would be as big as a horse blanket." Others are installing permanent exhibits or are fostering collections for banking room attraction. Some are acquiring sets of current coins and paper money of the world; others, type sets of U. S. coins, early types of U. S. notes, private bank notes and "shin plasters" of their state or locality, etc. Complete sets of fractional currency, and date sets of large copper cents are to be found displayed in the lobby of several banks.

In having displays of this kind bankers are adding to the general attractiveness of their banking rooms and from time to time, as new specimens are added "live wire" bankers gets considerable local publicity by the announcement.

Rare or valuable specimens are not essential for general interest, a variety of odd but low priced specimens in good condition will serve the purpose and, of course, the larger the display the greater the interest. Good sized interesting collections may be gradually acquired with but little trouble and at nominal expense. The "face," exchange or bullion value, should the collection approach valuable proportions, is a quick asset and may be considered as "cash," what it has cost above this may be made a good investment if charged to advertising.

The glass partitions between tellers' windows, around lobby pillars, over the public desks or vacant wall space offer points to be made attractive by securly framed displays of money. Some banks have their frames made so that they are locked to the wall during public display and easily removed for placing in the vault at other times.

Some banks have discovered the collecting spirit with one of their officers or clerks, placed them in charge of the bank's exhibit, paid for their membership in the American Numismatic Association, and purchased practical publications on the subject, developing that employee as a curator and source of information to the community as to the value and interest of money specimens.

Four Good Luck Coins That Are Highly Valued By Soldiers of Europe

Without confessing to being fatalists many persons are ready to own to influence of supernatural powers in terrestrial affairs. Such interference with the course of nature may seem even more wonderful than the strangest events that ever occurred. One and all cherish the belief in luck. It was pure luck that, as recently related, a soldier had some souvenir coins in his vest pocket. A bullet, hitting him, was deflected and they actually saved his life.

Old as the human race is the faith in charms, in fetishes, talismans, amulets either to bring good fortune or to avoid danger.

The present conflicts abroad have brought to light many instances that soldiers carry with them "pocket pieces" supposed to confer immunity from wounds or death in battle.

Ancient Magyar Gold Ducat. Madonna Florin of Munich.

Bavaria reveres Mary as patron saint. Her statues are found all over the country, in towns, villages, at road crossings. Most celebrated is the Madonna column at Munich. In the year 1855 King Maximilian II. restored the classic column amid pomp and processions; a silver double florin was struck in commemoration. Now the soldier who can obtain such a coin has it with him in the belief to remain safe and sound throughout the war.

The aspiration to unite all Italians under one government brings in these stirring times to the Italian patriot memories of the earlier struggles, more especially to throw off the Austrian yoke. The glorious days of 1848 are recalled, when the leaders of young Italy, Mazzini and Garibaldi, with a handful of enthusiasts succeeded in driving the hated Austrians from Lombardy. The mint at Milan coined a five lire piece, with the image of Italia, and the inscription, "Italia libera Dio lo vuole."

Within a year the heroes' dream was shattered. The Austrian bayonets regained Lombardy and recommenced their tyrannous rule. The above coin was condemned; its possession accounted high treason, the owners frequently sentenced to death even. Today the coin is very rare and has value for the historian no less than as a beautiful specimen for the numismatist. Above all the Italian who is called to the colors finally to attain the nation's ambition, by force of arms if necessary, wishes to have that token with him, as assurance of success and of personal invulnerability.

The Austrian soldier has unlimited faith in the efficacy of the Ritter (horseman's) dollar. It dates from the year 1616, coined by Archduke Max, with all heraldic devices, and bears the image of a fully armed horseman, visor down. The reverse side, shown in the illustration, bears the figure of the knight dismounted. The coin is highly prized, hundreds of crowns being offered for it by the young men who go to the front.

The Milan 5-Lire Piece.

The Ritter Dollar.

Not to be outdone, the Magyars' thoughts center on the one glorious period in Hungary's history, that of King Matthias, reigning from 1458-90. Sprung from an ancient Magyar family, his father was the national hero Hunyad. The son, elevated to rule as King, inherited not only ability for conducting campaigns, mainly against the Moslem power in the south, but even against the German Emperor, taking Vienna by storm. Hungary prospered as never before; her dominion extended from the Adriatic to the Black Sea, from the Carpathians to the Balkans.

Not in wars alone King Matthias proved his leadership; he was a liberal protector of art and science, founded universities, established the great library at his new capital of Buda, besides maintaining the magnificent residences at Pressburg and Temesvar, which outshone all other courts. Men of prominence, of learning, were invited to stay in Hungary and munificently rewarded. The entertainments the King gave in honor of foreign ambassadors surpassed all expectations. Gold ducats dating from this royal splendor are still treasured by the ancient Magyar families. When the fiery son dons the hussar uniform to join his comrades with the flag he will carry with him as talisman one of those rare coins. It is supposed to assure safety, to lead to victory.

Nickel Too Precious For Coins

Germany Using Small Pieces of Money to Make War Materials.

Nickel has become one of the precious metals in Europe. The Germans have been gathering all the nickel coins available in Belgium and in Germany for use in the manufacture of war materials. As a result the Federal Council of the German Empire has passed a bill to coin five pfennig pieces of zinc instead of nickel as heretofore.

In Belgium the German Governor-General has ordered all the 10 to 25 centime coins cast in zinc instead of nickel as heretofore. The zinc coins are not made necessarily legal tender for amounts above 5 francs.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at the Park Avenue Hotel Friday evening, October 8, 1915, with President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Beasley, Belden, Boyd, Elder, Frey, Heaton, Jaegg, Kennedy, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood and Wormser.

After the roll call the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary announced the receipt of one magazine, and of Mr. Belden's monograph on "War Medals of the Confederacy" and Mr. Cagiati's May and June numbers of the supplement to the work on "The Coins of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies," both presented to the library of the Club by the authors. A vote of thanks was extended to Messrs. Belden and Cagiati for their contribution, and the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge them.

Mr. Boyd, in behalf of the Executive Committee, submitted a report of its investigations into the cost of monthly publications of the Club. The Committee also announced as the subject for the next meeting the report of the Nominating Committee and further nominations of other candidates for election as officers; also a further and more detailed report of the Executive Committee upon the proposed publication of the Club.

The application of Mr. John M. Connor, Jr., to membership was next in order and the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot in favor of Mr. Connor's election.

Mr. Frey called attention to the various reports that have appeared in Numismatic magazines concerning iron coins for Belgium. He had taken some steps to investigate these reports and quoted the following from a letter received from our member, Mr. J. Schulman of Amsterdam, dated August 30th:

"As for the clippings from the papers I can inform you that there were issued in the City of Ghent **zinc coins,** but I have not seen them, but I am trying to get them, and only today I am reading that the Germans propose to introduce five, ten, and twenty-five centime pieces in Belgium, as the nickel is becoming scarce. Only the Ghent pieces have been issued to date, and as soon as I get some I will send them to you."

In this connection, Mr. Wormser called attention to the large and interesting series of medals issued by various establishments in Germany in connection with the war, calling attention to the exhibit of some of these which Mr. Wood had to show at this meeting.

The election of the Nominating Committee was next taken up, Mr. Wormser acting as Teller of the votes cast, eight members having been put up as candidates. Messrs. Kennedy, Swanson, and Proskey were elected on this Committee.

Mr. Boyd, in behalf of the Executive Committee, reported further upon the proposed monthly publication which was discussed by all the members at great length and finally referred back to the Executive Committee for a more detailed report which should incorporate definite recommendations. The meeting then adjourned for the purpose of examining the exhibits in connection with the subject set for the evening, "Tokens and Medals of Martin Van Buren."

Exhibits.

By Mr. Boyd: 12 Van Buren Medals, noteworthy among them the following:

Shell: Obv. "Martin Van Buren born Dec. 3, 1786." Bust to left. Rev. "Free Soil and Free Labour."

Shell: Obv. "Martin Van Buren 1849," head to right. Rev. "Free Soil, Free Labor and Free Speech."

White Metal Medal: Obv. "M. Van Buren" head to left within wreath. Rev. "Spread Eagle with Talon over Treasure Chest. "The Country demands his re-election (Van Buren)."

White Metal Medal: Obv. Bust to left "Martin Van Buren Democracy." Rev. "Uniform and Sound Currency." The Sub-Treasury. Also a book on "Life and Times of Martin Van Buren by Wm. L. Mackenzie, 1846."

By Mr. Belden: Two original silver peace Medals of Martin Van Buren, showing the two different reverses which, during his administration, were changed.

By Mr. Proskey: Forty-two large and small size tokens and medals of Van Buren, chiefly from the cabinets of the McCoy Bros., among them white metal medal by Smith. Obv. M. Van Buren bust to left within wreath. Rev. Eagle on Treasure Chest, Sheaf of Wheat, anchor, Horn & Plenty, Plow and Ship "The Firm and Fearless Advocate of Democracy. Indep't Treasury."

White Metal Medal: Obv. "Bust with two buttons on the coat. Rev. Eagle on Safe. Copper medal. Obv. Bust with "Fore Fathers." Rev. "Farmer Plowing."

Also a brass Jackson Medal. Rev. "The Nation's Pride" with two stars between the lines of the inscription, only three or four known.

Mr. Wood, in behalf of Dr. Malcolm Storer, showed a number of German Medals issued in connection with the European War and upon German Naval victories and deeds of valor. Among them Medallic Thalers on Von Mueller, Weddigen, and Von Spee; a number of small silver tokens on the same subject; the large bronze medal, satyrical, upon the use by England of Neutral Flags, and the large bronze Von-Tirpitz Medal by K. Goetz "Gott strafe England."

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, September 21, 1915.

The 84th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. King, Bauer, Merritt, Yawger, Handler, Bostwick, L. G. Amberg, W. H. Amberg, Borradaile, Koeb, Plumb, Tillotson, Ballard, French. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Mr. W. H. Amberg exhibited his collection of Canadian Sou pieces, showing most of the rarities in fine and uncirculated condition.

Mr. A. H. Plumb also exhibited 45 varieties of Canadian Sou pieces, in splendid condition. A vote of thanks was extended both gentlemen for their kind efforts.

Our Vice President, Mr. King, entertained the members present with a

talk on his trip to the coast. Mr. King stopped at Chicago, Denver, Pike's Peak, Salt Lake City, Yellowstone Park, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco, visiting the Fair, from there to Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Canada, to St. Paul, and home again, having been away about eight weeks. His talk was greatly enjoyed by all and a vote of thanks was extended him.

W. H. Amberg exhibited about sixty varieties of his Canadian Sou Tokens. Among them were several fine specimens of the following:

Two varieties of J. Roy Token, B-671, thick and thin flan. Also several varieties of B-674 and B-684 both in copper and brass. A fine specimen of the extremely rare Token B-675. B-686 Cracked Die. B-691 Perfect and cracked die. B-702 Thick and thin flan. Also five varieties of B-715 including one variety thin flan, plain edge.

The collection was noticeable for its fine condition; a number of them being uncirculated.

Also the collection of sous of A. H. Plumb, consisting of about forty-five varieties, which was also noticeable for its very fine condition.

W. H. Amberg also exhibited a collection of seven 20th Century Tokens, issued by Mr. Wm. Sykes, of the City of Hull, England, of which there was a cut and a description in last month's Numismatist. They are well struck up and are issued in proof condition and are indeed a handsome specimen of Die Sinker's Art.

Mr. Kolb, an expert die sinker, admitted that it is some of the finest work he has seen.

Meeting adjourned to October 5, 1915.

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, October 5, 1915.

The 85th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. French, W. H. Amberg, Merritt, Woolsey, Bauer, Yawyer, L. G. Amberg, Handler, Bostwick, Tillotson, Woodbury. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Mr. Waldo C. Moore, of Lewisburg, Ohio, presented the R. N. A. with two pieces of script in proof condition—an 1861 25c and 1862 50c piece, on the Farmers & Mechanics Bank of Rochester, N. Y. As these pieces of script are on Rochester banks they will be of particular interest to the Rochester public, and are being placed with our exhibit at the Rochester Municipal Museum. Mr. Moore was accorded a vote of thanks for his gift.

The R. N. A. is also in receipt of a pamphlet from Mr. R. M. McLachlan, of Montreal, P. Q., containing his address before the Royal Society of Canada in May, 1915, the pamphlet being illustrated with a number of plates showing Canadian coins. The Secretary was instructed to thank Mr. McLachlan in behalf of the Association.

Mr. John C. Woodbury, of 145 Lake Avenue, Rochester, N. Y., made application for membership. Mr. Woodbury, being present, had his application voted on at once, and was duly elected a member of the R. N. A.

Meeting adjourned to October 19, 1915.

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday, October 19, 1915.

The 86th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association was called to order by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. L. G. Amberg, Stanley, Handler, Koeb, Bostwick, W. H. Amberg, Putnam, Woodbury, Mer-

ritt, Plumb, Woolsey, French, Borradaile, Yawger, Tillotson, Bauer. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Messrs. G. J. Bauer and F. E. Merritt presented the R. N. A. to be placed in the collection on exhibit at the Rochester Municipal Museum a fine collection of 20 medals.

Set of 14 pcs. Sage's Historical Tokens.

Set of 16 pcs. Lovett's Homes of the Presidents—1st to 16th inclusive.

Set of 8 pcs. Washington—Reverse, Battles fought in 1776.

A vote of thanks was extended them for their generous gift.

Mr. Merritt, one of the Board of Governors of the American Numismatic Association, read a letter written him by Mr. Granberg, which was listened to with much interest, as it related to arrangements being made to hold the 1916 A. N. A. Convention at Baltimore, Md., during the latter part of September, 1916.

Mr. Woodbury, our new member, exhibited some French medals which were the finest specimens of medallic art that any of us were ever privileged to see,—one of Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press, one of Louis Phillipe and several others being exceptionally beautiful.

After the meeting a very successful auction sale was held.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday evening, November 2, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

Made Their Own Money in Civil War Time

The American Antiquarian Society has acquired one of the largest collections in the country of the tradesmen's currency, or copper tokens, of the Civil War period.

This collection numbers about nineteen hundred varieties, comprising 1,550 advertising tokens and 350 general tokens.

The issue of this form of currency makes an interesting study in the economic history of the Civil War. Early in 1862 the depreciation of paper currency so decreased the circulation of silver and consequently increased the demand for copper coins that small change became exceedingly scarce.

Hotel keepers, restauranteurs and tradesmen were compelled to resort to the device of coining cents of their own, which coinage, of course, soon met with government opposition.

In a letter, July 14, 1862, Secretary Chase informed Congress of the increasing difficulty of obtaining change and the practice on the part of tradesmen of issuing copper tokens of their own coinage.

To remedy the evil he proposed Congress should declare such private issues illegal, prevent the hoarding of silver by diminishing the bullion value of the smaller coins and allow the use of stamps in small payments.

July 27, 1862, a law was enacted authorizing the use and redemption of postage stamps for small payments and prohibiting all kinds of private issues or tokens.

Postage stamps immediately came into use as a substitute for small currency. To some small extent they were issued under a private patent encased in a small metal button with an isinglass front, of which type of currency the society has forty-three specimens out of about one hundred and forty known.

Although the act of July 17, 1862, explicitly forbade the issue or circulation of tokens and provided a penalty for infraction of the law, yet it was a year or more before the prohibition seems to have been regarded.

Early in 1863 the tokens were issued throughout the country in large quantity, and many are dated even in 1864.

These tokens, as shown in the collection acquired by the American Antiquarian Society, may be divided into two classes: the advertising war tokens, which bore the name of the issuing firm, often with a promise of redemption, and the general or straight war tokens, which bore no evidence of origin or redemption, but which were apparently in as general circulation.

The tokens were almost entirely of copper and of practically the same size and weight as the United States copper cent, but occasionally they were of brass, nickel or pewter or alloy, and in a few instances of silver.

—The Worcester Telegram.

Coins Come to Bay All to be Recoined

Superintendent of San Francisco Mint Reports Receipt of Vast Quantities of Foreign Moneys.

SAN FRANCISCO, September 14.—Foreign coins to the value of $18,740,207 have been received at the United States Mint in this city for recoinage since June 30, 1915. T. W. H. Shanahan, Superintendent of the Mint, said today the deposits exceeded by many millions the average amount of foreign coins received here for conversion into American money.

A total of $11,216,014 in English sovereigns was sent from Australia; $6,363,066 in gold Japanese yen has been received. Gold bars, melted from Chinese coins, valued at $1,171,200, are also at the Mint.

A consignment of English sovereigns valued at $5,500,00 is expected from Australia next week. Since last October gold bars valued at $8,355,728 have been received from China.

The money was consigned to San Francisco banks and transferred after its arrival to the Mint.

There is $310,000,000 in gold bars awaiting coinage at the Mint. Upon receipt of the foreign coins they are melted into bars.

Demand for New Coins

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Demand from banks and merchants for newly-minted half dollars, quarters and dimes has led Director of the Mint Woolley to purchase since the 1st of August 4,375,000 fine ounces of silver, almost as much as was purchased during the entire year of 1914.

Owing to the world-wide depression the silver was purchased at an average price of a little more than 48 cents an ounce, several cents under the average price paid last year. Officials explain that India and other countries which usually take large quantities of silver have not been so extensively in the market this year.

There are onlyabout 173 grains of silver in a half dollar, so that the mint can make many millions of these coins from the amount now on hand. Director Woolley says that the increased demand for subsidiary coins shows greater prosperity among workmen.

Special Offers for November

Silver Dollars:

1795 Head type	$ 3.25
1796	3.40
1797	3.40
1798 Small Eagle. Rare	4.25
1798 Large Eagle	2.60
1799	2.40
1800	2
1801 Rare	5
1802	.75
1803	2.75
1836 **Proof.**. Brilliant	19.00
1836 Proof	18.00
1836 Very fine	15.00
1836 Very Good	10.00

Liberty seated Dollars, dates of my selection, at only $1.30 each, or five different dates for only 6.00

Half Dollars:

1795 Very Good	2.25
1801 Rare. Very Good	3.25
1802 Very Good	3.60
1803 Scarce	.90
1805 over '04. Rare. Very Good	1.40
1815 Very Good	2.85
1815 Fine	3.75
1815 Uncirculated	12.50
Half Dollars 1808 to 1839:	
Lot of Ten different dates, only	6.25
Lot of Twenty different dates	12.00
1852 Very Good. Rare	1.50
1861 O. mint. Struck by the Confederates	1.40

Large U. S. Cents. Good lots and good assortment, only **$2.75** per 100 pieces.

TRANSPORTATION EXTRA.

Send me a list of what you want to buy and what you have for sale.

✦ ✦ ✦

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY REFUNDED.

✦ ✦ ✦

B. MAX MEHL

NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH - - TEXAS

?

Suppose you send me a list of some of the pieces you want for your collection now, and let me send them to you on approval without the slightest cost or obligation to you.

My approval business has been so successful that I feel I have the goods and right prices.

Try me on some of the "unusual," as well as other pieces.

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST

FORT WORTH, - - TEXAS

VOLUME VI. NUMBER 12
WHOLE NUMBER 72

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Numismatic Journal

Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

SUBSCRIPTION
IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA, FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
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SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS

DECEMBER, 1915

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
B. MAX MEHL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U. S. A.

Throughout the Christmas-time and the coming New Year, I wish for you all that you wish for yourself--

And if that is not enough--may you have a few agreeable surprises and happy disappointments.

Mehl's Numismatic Monthly

An Illustrated Journal Devoted to Coins, Medals and Paper Money

Original contributions from those interested in Numismatics solicited and liberally paid for. Newspaper and magazine clippings pertaining to Numismatics thankfully received.

B. MAX MEHL, Editor and Publisher

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Vol. VI. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, DECEMBER, 1915 No. 12

Germany's War Medals

By SIR WHITWORTH WALLIS

In The STRAND.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SCARBOROUGH AND HARTLEPOOL.

The medals here shown have been, in most cases, considerably enlarged in order to bring out the details more clearly. The dimensions under the reproductions indicate the size of the originals.

Through the good offices of a foreign correspondent the writer has been able to secure a selection of the remarkable medals which have been struck in Germany to commemorate the triumphant progress of the German armies. These medals are the work of well-known sculptors and medallists; they perpetuate in bronze, silver, and even gold the leading events of the world-war. Many of them have cost considerable sums to issue, but, notwithstanding the price, have commanded a large and ready sale. From a list which has reached me it is to be gathered that the medallists of the Fatherland have been kept fairly busy, for this little catalogue enumerates no fewer than eighty-five events, mostly "victories" over the Allies in Belgium, France, Russia, Poland, Chile, China, the Caucasus, Turkey, and East Africa. As the reader will discover, many of these medals, however dear to the hearts of the great German

people, are calculated to add not a little to the gaiety of other nations. Liege, Namur, Brussels, Louvain, Tirlemont, Ostend, Dixmude, Ypres, and Nieuport are all commemorated. A medal for Maubeuge, August 21st, fixes the defeat of the English cavalry brigades; whilst two medals testify to the destruction of the French and British armies at St. Quentin, August 28th, by Von Kluck and Von Buelow!

Popular favorites are, of course, the Emperor and Empress—one of the most eagerly purchased at the beginning of hostilities was the medal struck to commemorate the declaration of war, showing the Emperor, inscribed, "I know no parties, only Germans," and, on the reverse, a double-handed sword and inscription, "In dire necessity, with a clear conscience and clean hands, we grasp the sword." This medal is reproduced on the previous page.

THE FIRST MEDAL STRUCK IN THE WAR.
"I KNOW NO PARTIES, ONLY GERMANS."
Diameter 1⅜ in.

The taking of Antwerp is recorded by no fewer than five medals; the most interesting shows the city with its cathedral, and the River Scheldt, on the banks of which a large German eagle, heavily crowned, is standing; whilst the reverse bears St. George and the Dragon, as shown in the above reproduction. The Teutons, for this occasion, have annexed our patron saint, and, as a compliment to Mr. Winston Churchill, Belgium and our Naval Brigade are indicated by a ferocious-looking dragon. It does not appear to have occurred to the designer that a Hun and a saint are not precisely the same thing. The destruction of Antwerp by the famous 42cm. mortars figures on one side of a medal, whilst the other bears a portrait of their inventor, Professor Dr. Rausenberger!

Rheims, Mulhouse, Luneville, Metz, Lille, Soissons are all bemedalled. The Crown Prince alone has four silver medals, dedicated to his prowess as conqueror of Longwy. As this was in August of last year, another medal is surely overdue. The one reproduced shows the Crown Prince wearing the uniform of the Death's Head Hussars, at the head of which regiment he expressed his determination to die. Apparently, on consideration, he changed

his mind, and only let his reputation perish. On the reverse is a warrior with sword and shield, the latter bearing the German eagle, whilst across the medal runs a frieze intended to represent the Hussars in pursuit of the enemy.

Perhaps the gem of the collection is the silver medal inscribed "Nach Paris, 1914," with a portrait of General von Kluck on the face of it, on the reverse (next reproduced) a female figure on a horse, holding a torch, with a burning town below. The fool-fury holding the flaming brand possibly unconsciously delineates that Teutonic "culture" with which we are now acquainted—if so, it must be reckoned one of the happiest designs on record. As the designer, however, was also aspiring to the rank of a prophet, the

THE FALL OF ANTWERP.
THE HUN AS A SAINT!
Diameter 1¼ in.

medal being struck in anticipation of the triumphant entry into Paris, it somewhat missed its purpose. Paris, without any consideration for his feelings, declined to fall, and the prophet-designer got badly left.

I am told that several other medals were struck in readiness for the capture of Paris, but later they also had to be consigned to the melting-pot.

The reader must not imagine that these medals are manufactured of cheap white metal, sold by itinerant street hawkers; on the contrary, they are in silver and bronze, and cost from three shillings to thirty shillings apiece. They vary in size from less than an inch to three and four inches in diameter, and of the smaller sizes many thousands have been sold.

A special medal was brought out when the elusive "Goeben" and "Breslau," in conjunction with some Turkish destroyers, bombarded Sebastopol and Odessa, whilst the declaration of war by Turkey produces one inscribed, "Turkey enters the Holy War, November 12th, 1914."

IN ANTICIPATION OF THE FALL OF PARIS!
WHEN PARIS REFUSED TO FALL THIS MEDAL HAD TO BE CALLED IN.

Teutonic bravery farther East is represented by "the heroic defense of Tsing-tau against the English and Japanese." Permanent records in bronze and silver were also issued of the destruction of "the English Fleet" off Chile and the sinking of the three cruisers off the Hook of Holland, September, 1914. As the latter exploit was carried out by Captain Weddigen, large medallions over four inches in diameter were produced.

THE CROWN PRINCE AT LONGWY.
WHERE HE VOWED TO CONQUER OR DIE, BUT BROKE HIS WORD.

COMMEMORATING THE ZEPPELINS.

ANOTHER MEDAL TO COMMEMORATE THE FALL OF PARIS.
"WE GERMANS ONLY FEAR GOD—NOTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD."
Diameter 1½ in.

A fine bronze medal by Lutz, here reproduced, struck during the march on Paris, shows the German eagle standing on a sword which lies across the Eastern Hemisphere, with Europe and Northern Africa, whilst on the right is a body of advancing German troops surrounded by the words, "We Germans

A MEDAL SATIRIZING THE INDIAN TROOPS.
Diameter 2¼ in.

only fear God—nothing else in the world." On the reverse is a German infantryman holding a flag and rifle and kneeling across the body of a French soldier.

Count Zeppelin has, of course, been duly honored. The Count's features adorn one side of a bronze medallion, whilst the reverse shows one of his huge airships dropping bombs and heavily attacking a fortified town—with the inscription, "Our Zeppelin in action in the Campaign of 1914." This is a fantastic effort of the imagination, unlike any locality so far attacked. A baby in a cradle would have been far more like the real thing.

Recently, another has been produced showing a Zeppelin bombarding the coast of England, with submarines and destroyers attacking the shores, inscribed, "England's Retribution."

There has been an enormous sale of small medals especially made for hanging on a watch chain or as bracelets. I have been told of one man seen

ANOTHER SATIRICAL MEDAL AGAINST THE ALLIES.
"THE SPREADERS OF CULTURE UNITED IN THE WORLD-WAR."
Size of original 3½ in. by 2¼ in.

in a restaurant wearing no fewer than fourteen of these embellishments. They cover all the events of the war.

The first of the baby-killing expeditions, which Mr. Balfour aptly termed that "most immoral and inglorious attack" on Scarborough and Hartlepool, is immortalized in silver, as shown at the head of this article, and a like honor is paid to the "Bombardment of English fortresses by Zeppelins" on the East Coast, presumably Sandringham and Southend. These world-famous victories, stupendous though they are, are, however, rivalled, if not surpassed, by another, commemorated as the "Defeat of the English and French Fleets in the Dardanelles, March 18th," which furnished Germany with another outburst of jubilation. This inscription is really a masterpiece: "The Defeat of the English and French Fleets!" It is impossible to do better than that.

A considerable number of satirical medals have also been issued, some of very doubtful taste, illustrative of that coarse Teutonic humor with which we are now familiar. Due attention is paid to the Indian troops, represented as a small elephant, and our ally, Japan, is generally disguised as a monkey. One in demand represents Germany as an oak tree, in which stands the German eagle. From the branches of the tree hang Russian, French, and Belgian soldiers, whilst below an English soldier is assisting a Japanese—a monkey—to climb the tree. The reverse is inscribed, "Now, my little Japanese, get up the German oak and see if you can pluck a feather from the eagle's tail." Both of these medals are reproduced.

JAPAN, AS A MONKEY, ATTACKS THE GERMAN EAGLE.

A specially large medal, also shown, represents President Poincaré, with arms extended, embracing King George and the Czar, an African, a Turco, Zulu, and Japanese; the reverse inscribed, "Thus we carry culture to the uttermost parts of the earth."

That the apostle of frightfulness is popular is proved by the important representations of Von Tirpitz. The most-sought-after is the famous "Gott Strafe England" medal, here reproduced, struck to commemorate the "Blockade of England, February 18th, 1915." This is the first appearance of the famous phrase.

Such are some of the German "Victory-medals"—a few selected out of scores. Strange products of half-crazy swagger and vainglory! Yet, despite the contemptuous amusement with which an Englishman regards them, it is

difficult to withhold a certain kind of admiration. The modern Hun, although not quite the lord of light and leading of his own conception, has shown himself in one respect without a rival. As a boaster he has eclipsed the fame of Bobadil and Ancient Pistol, and here stands forth, in grand supremacy, as the greatest master of braggadocio that the world has seen.

Several of these medals are now being exhibited in the Birmingham Art Gallery.

TO COMMEMORATE THE BLOCKADE OF ENGLAND!
THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE FAMOUS PHRASE.

Mints are Busy Coining Nickels and Pennies

In order to supply the unusual demand for nickels and pennies, the mints of the United States, until further notice, will devote all attention to the production of these minor coins. United States Treasurer Burke has announced that no more 1915 gold coins will be made. New gold coins of previous years will be available to meet the holiday demand, and orders will be filled from the present supply other than that of 1915.

Prices Realized at B. Max Mehl Sale of November 23, 1915

1852 Gold Ring Dollar. Proof	$ 40.00
1852 Pattern Gold Ring Dollar. Rev. blank. Perfect	35.00
Utah, 1849 $2.50 Gold Piece. Very fine	52.50
California, 1852 $10.00 U. S. Assay Office. Very fine	21.05
1907 $10.00 Gold. Second Issue. Uncirculated	40.00
1798 $5.00 Gold. Large date. Nearly Unc.	12.50
1865 $3.00 Gold. Fine	15.00
1876 $3.00 Gold. Proof	123.00
1797 Quarter Eagle. Fine	55.00
1806 over '04 Quarter Eagle. Very good	40.00
1824 over '21 Quarter Eagle. Very fine	30.00
1825 Quarter Eagle. Practically Uuc.	20.00
1826 over '25 Quarter Eagle. Fine for coin	90.00
1795 Silver Dollar. 3 leaves under wings	4.10
1836 Silver Dollar. C. Gobrecht on base. Proof	16.50
1839 Silver Dollar. Fine	35.00
1870 Nevada Centennial Dollar	5.75
1797 Half Dollar. Very good	17.00
1795 Half Dime. Practically uncirculated	6.40
1874 Pattern 20c piece. Copper proof	10.50
1838 Pattern Half Dollar. Flying Eagle. Brilliant proof	18.00
1876 Pattern Dollar. Brilliant silver proof	7.50
1793 Cent. Chain. Very good	5.00
1799 Cent. About Good	8.00
1804 Cent. Fair	4.50
1879 $4.00 Gold. Proof	72.50
1796 5c Silver. Nearly fine	5.75
1793 Cent. Chain. Fine	8.10
1799 Large Cent. Perfect date	14.40
1804 Cent. Die break. Very good	11.00
1856 Flying Eagle Cent. About uncirculated	13.50
1851 Silver Dollar. Brilliant proof	110.00
1855 Silver Dollar. Nearly uncirculated	6.00
1856 Silver Dollar. Uncirculated	10.00
1858 Silver Dollar. Brilliant proof	30.00
1871 Silver Dollar. CC Mint. Very good	8.00
1873 Silver Dollar. CC Mint. Very good	12.00
1889 Silver Dollar. S. Mint. Nearly uncirculated	6.60
1796 Quarter Dollar. Uncirculated	12.00
1849 Quarter Dollar. O. Mint. Good	10.50
1853 Quarter Dollar, without rays and arrows. Unc.	15.00
1796 Dime. Brilliant proof	12.50
1859 Dime with Reverse of 1860. Brilliant proof	51.00
1856 Cent. Proof	13.60
Washington Half Dollar in copper	40.00
1852 Pattern Ring Dollar, silver	7.00
1852 $2.50 Gold. D. Mint	30.00
1854 $2.50 Gold. D. Mint	61.50
1859 $2.50 Gold. D. Mint	16.50
Carolina, $5.00 Gold. C. Bechtler at Rutherf.	20.00
1860 Colorado $3.50 Gold	15.00
1870 California Gold Dollar, Round	10 00
Russia, 3 Rouble, 1828, platinum. About uncirculated	23.50

The sale consisted of the collections of Messrs. W. G. Quade, R. Turner Moore and others, and contained in all over fifteen hundred (1500) lots. The complete list, showing amounts realized for each lot, may be had for only 50c, by addressing B. Max Mehl, Fort Worth, Texas.

The Bank of Montreal Tokens. 1842-4.

Written for MEHL'S NUMISMATIC MONTHLY

By F. BLAKE.

The first incorporated bank in Canada—the Bank of Montreal—has the reputation of being the strongest bank on this continent. Founded in 1817, it still retains its premier position, and through its tokens is known throughout the world.

When the Union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada took place in 1841, Montreal, the largest city in the united province, was chosen as the seat of government. The Bank of Montreal became the government bankers, and for some years enjoyed the sole right to issue copper tokens.

The pennies and half-pennies issued in 1838-9, showing both front and end of the bank, are known as "side views" and command high prices—but they can hardly come under the heading of common coins. It is to the issues of 1842-4 that I wish to call attention at present.

These tokens, Breton 526-527, have on obverse a front view of the bank and the legend "PROVINCE OF CANADA. BANK OF MONTREAL." The reverse consists of the arms of the bank, the legend "BANK TOKEN," the date and value. The penny B. 526 is the scarcest of the two values, and there are quite a few distinct die varieties. The difference will be found in the iron railings and trees on each side of the building, the chimney stays, the porch and door, and more especially in the windows. There are twenty windows; ten are nearly square and ten are larger, about double the height of their width. It is in the position of the upright sash bar that I find the most difference, whether in the centre, or to the right or left of same. The slight difference in the leaves of trees, and in the iron rails on each side of the building may be accounted for by the dies becoming worn or damaged during the striking of the tokens. But if on examination you find the upright center sash bar of the top long window to the left to be exactly in the centre, while in another specimen it is considerably to the left or right, I think we are justified in calling these two tokens—two distinct varieties. I examine each of the ten long windows in this way and so far have found ten distinct die varieties of the penny.

There are also distinct differences in the door, the upright lines and knob of same, and in the angle at top of the porch—one varity shows a molding, but most are plain.

In the 1842 half-penny I have only found four varieties, but the 1844 is a fine field for the die variety hunter. I have over twenty distinct varieties of this date and my list is ever growing.

In the half-pennies there are differences I have not alluded to. Beneath the cornice at bottom of the roof are a number of square blocks. The end ones will be found both close to, and away from the wall. The date also is another point of difference; you will find both close and widely spaced dates. I place each variety in a separate envelope and state the position of upright bars of each of the ten large windows, whether in centre, or to right or left, and give each variety a number. I number the windows from left to right, and the envelope shows at a glance the distinct features of the token within.

As an illustration I copy one of the envelopes:

527—1844. Var. 10.

Top long windows—upright sash bars.

1	2	3	4	5	6
L	L	C	C	C	L

Bottom long windows—upright bars.

7	8	9	10
C	L	L	L

Cross sash bars of 7 and 8 are double cut.

Perfect rails to fence. Leaves outside rails at left.

Single stays to chimneys. Cornice blocks close to building.

Many letters in legend—double cut.

Examination of the smaller square windows will show distinct differences in the position of the upright and cross bars—thus the number of varieties may be greatly increased.

This token is said to exist with the date 1845. I have never seen a genuine one, but have seen a specimen with a faked date. The existence of altered dates on this, and Breton 1012 are dangerous, especially to the less experienced collectors—but careful examination with a good glass will reveal the fraud.

Congratulations to the Numismatist

With the current number of the Numismatist, it completes its twenty-eighth year of continuous publication; a record seldom equaled for a numismatic publication with a popular subscription.

To the Numismatist and of course to the gentlemen who so unselfishly gave their time and money for its continued publication, is due mainly the present successful existence of the American Numismatic Association.

The Association today is the "back-bone" of numismatics in this country. It did and does more today for the advancement of numismatics than any other agent. The Association, together with its official journal, the Numismatist, deserves the unstinted support of everyone interested in the advancement of numismatics.

We heartily congratulate the Numismatist on its twenty-ninth anniversary and wish it a continued successful career. B. M. M.

Obituary

Prominent Chicago Numismatist Passes Away.

The Numismatic Fraternity lost another prominent member in the death of Mr. Charles H. Conover, who died on November 4th, after a brief illness.

Mr. Conover was born at Easton, Pa., and spent his early years on a farm in New Jersey. He removed to Buffalo and attended the public schools until the age of eighteen, when he became a clerk for Pratt & Co., a hardware firm of that city; remaining with them until the year 1871, when he entered the employ of Hibbard & Spencer as assistant buyer.

In 1882, when Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co. was incorporated, he became a Director, and after Mr. Spencer's death in 1890, he became Secretary. After Mr. Hibbard died, in the fall of 1903, he took the office of Vice President, and in January, 1914, was elected President.

He was a Director of the National Bank of the Republic and of the Chicago Great Western Railroad, and Vice President of the Chicago Historical Society, in whose work he took an exceedingly great interest.

He made a magnificent collection of coins, specializing in the United States issues; in the silver and minor coins of this country he had a specimen of each year with the exception of the 1804 Dollar. His entire collection was sold at auction by B. Max Mehl in May, 1914.

He was also a keen collector of Americana, showing a particular fondness for the Lewis and Clarke Expedition and any bibliography pertaining thereto. Another hobby was the collecting of old blue Staffordshire china showing American historical views.

Harry Earle Montgomery

The untimely death of Harry E. Montgomery at Buffalo, who died on November 11th, will come as a distinct shock to his many friends and the membership of the American Numismatic Association, in which he had taken a keen interest, having been in attendance at all of the Conventions since he became a member of the Association.

Mr. Montgomery was a member of the law firm of Lewis and Montgomery for nineteen years. He was the author of "Vital American Problems" and "Christ's Social Remedy." Mr. Montgomery was married only last June in San Francisco to Miss Jane E. McDonough. They spent their honeymoon in the Orient. Mr. Montgomery's health failed while he was preparing some lectures about his trip.

No one realizes more than the Publisher the inconvenience, and we might say annoyance by the delay of publications, as is this month's issue. We have always endeavored to be prompt, and our delay with this number was caused by the absence from office by the Publisher on account of illness.

New York Numismatic Club

Regular meeting was held at Park Avenue Hotel Friday evening, Nov. 12, 1915, President Smith presiding. The following members were present: Adams, Beesley, Belden, Boyd, de Lagerberg, Elder, A. R. Frey, C. P. Frey, Heaton, Kennedy, Kohler, Nangle Newell, Proskey, Smith, Swanson, Valentine, Wood, Wormser, and as guests, Messrs. Saltus and Simmons.

After the roll call, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Elder, in behalf of the New York Store Cards Committee, reported that increased interest in store cards was being manifested at recent auction sales.

In behalf of the Paper Money Committee, Mr. Proskey read a communication from the United States Government in regard to the recent robbery of a large quantity of unsigned national bank notes, cautioning collectors not to acquire them, as they were subject to government seizure.

The Nominating Committee then submitted its report on nominations for officers for the year 1916 as follows:

For President: F. C. C. Boyd.
For Vice President: A. R. Frey.
For Secretary and Treasurer: M. Wormser.
For Executive Committee: D. W. Valentine, E. H. Adams, T. L. Elder, J. M. Swanson.
For Membership Committee: D. R. Kennedy, R. Kohler, W. Raymond, Elliott Smith, D. Proskey.
For Publication Committee: E. H. Adams, D. W. Valentine, Howland Wood.
For Medallic Art Committee: J. M. Swanson, E. F. Newell, A. G. Heaton, J. de Lagerberg, D. Proskey.

The report was accepted, and the Secretary instructed to file the report and read it at the next meeting.

The Secretary reported the receipt of Vol. 1, No. 3, of Member Heaton's publication of "The Nutshell," and of one magazine, also the receipt of several communications.

The Executive Committee submitted its report in regard to the monthly publication of the Club; they were divided on the question of the advisability of its publication and recommended an open discussion at the meeting. They reported its cost, including mailing, as $109.00 against a cost for the year book of $80.00. The committee also reported that it had authorized the Treasurer to send a wreath of flowers to the funeral of our deceased member, Mr. Gustav Jaegg.

The Publication Committee reported that the year book would probably be issued at the January meeting. The advisability of a monthly publication was next taken up and discussed at length. Finally it was moved that the publication of the year book be continued, and this motion was carried.

Under the head of new business, Mr. Elder referred to the Iron Coins issued by the German Empire, but which had been delayed owing to the difficulty of avoiding rust.

Mr. de Lagerberg told an interesting story of his vacation trip down east, and through Nova Scotia, and his experience during same.

Mr. Adams called attention to the appearance in Mr. Granberg's possession, at the San Francisco meeting, of a second apparently authentic specimen of the Confederate half dollar.

Mr. Heaton told of his visit to Mr. Granberg's home, and its pleasant surroundings, and expressed regret that Mr. Granberg himself had not been there at the time.

President Smith properly expressed the great sorrow of the entire Club over the death of our member Mr. Gustav Jaegg, who had been such a faithful attendant at our meetings, and who had distinguished himself by a character of sterling quality, shown in a number of philanthropic activities. It was then moved that an expression of its sincere regret be spread upon the minutes of our Club.

The President then extended the welcome of the Club to the guests of the evening, Messrs. Simmons and Saltus.

The subject for the next meeting will be the election of officers.

The following were the exhibits of the evening:

By Mr. Proskey: Four new coins of Siam. New copies of Villa paper money of the State of Chihuahua, 5 and 50 Centavos and one, five, ten and twenty Pesos. The smallest 1893 Columbia Fair Medal, gold plated. Obv. Bust of Columbus; Rev. Lord's Prayer.

By Mr. Kohler: Six different colors and metals of the official Panama-Pacific Exposition Medal.

By Mr. de Lagerberg: Mounted placquette of Baron August Wilhelm Stjernstedt, (Numismaticus) by A. Lindberg. Medal by A. Scharff of Dr. Jos. Ritt. v. Bergmann, 1796-1872, Direktor d K.K. Muenz - u. Antiken Kabinets at Vienna. (Courtesy of V. Consul Sven Lagerberg.) "Lucky Penny," Board of Trade, City of Passaic, N. J.

By Mr. Wormser: German Guinea, five Marks, 1894, showing bird of Paradise. Saxony John George IV, 1669, square Thaler, showing baby in cradle struggling with snakes, upon his christening.

MORITZ WORMSER, Secretary.

Rochester Numismatic Association

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday Evening, November 16, 1915.

The 88th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association called to order by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Bauer, Woodbury, King, Merritt, Kondolf, Plumb, Bostwick, Koeb, Woolsey, Borradaile, Handler, Tillotson, W. H .Amberg, Yawger, L. G. Amberg, Ballard, French, Williams.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Duffield, advising of the death of Mr. Harry E. Montgomery of Buffalo, N. Y., which came as a great shock to all, it being the first intimation any of them had had of his passing away. President Amberg appointed a committee to draft resolutions of sympathy to Mr. Montgomery's wife and family, a copy of which is placed in the minutes, as follows:

"Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to take from us on November 11th, 1915, Harry E. Montgomery, an Honorary Member of the Rochester Numismatic Association, our Society has lost a great scholar, an ardent

Numismatist and a sincere friend, whose memory we shall always cherish, therefore be it

"Resolved: That the members of the Rochester Numismatic Association hereby express their great sorrow in the ending of so honorable and useful a life and the loss of a dear friend and member. Be it further

"Resolved: That this resolution be spread on the minutes of the Society and a copy be sent to Mrs. Harry E. Montgomery, of Buffalo, N. Y."

The matter of our 1915 medal, with Mr. L. G. Amberg's portrait, was taken up and Mr. Koeb, our artist, was requested to go ahead and make all necessary arrangements.

Mr. M. A. Kondolf, 1211 Lyell Avenue, Gates, N. Y., applied in person for membership in our Association, and motion was duly made and carried that Mr. Kondolf's application be accepted and he be declared a member at once.

Publications received: Mehl's Numismatic Monthly, the Philatelic West, Catalog of Lyman H. Low's Sale Nov. 23, 1915; Catalog of Edward Michael Sale Nov. 23, 1915.

There was an exhibition of Half Dimes by Messrs. Merritt, Bauer, L. G. Amberg, Yawger and French, and nearly every variety and mint mark of the Half Dime (with the exception of the 1802) was found on some of the cards, in condition from Fine to Proof. Mr. Merritt read an article on the Half Dimes, explaining the varieties, etc., which was interesting to all, as most of the members are collecting this series. The coins were displayed on cards made by Mr. C. T. Borradaile, one of our members, which made the exhibit more attractive and much easier to handle, for close examination of the coins.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, December 7, 1915.

Hotel Rochester, Tuesday Evening, December 7, 1915.

The 89th meeting of the Rochester Numismatic Association called to order by President L. G. Amberg. Members present: Messrs. King, Bostwick, Wild, Plumb, Ballard, Bauer, Woodbury, W. H. Amberg, L. G. Amberg, Koeb, Stanley, Merritt, Clark, Yawger, Woolsey, French, Tillotson, Borradaile.

President Amberg appointed the same committee as last year (Messrs. King Merritt and French) to make arrangements for the annual dinner of the R. N. A., which is to be held at the Hotel Rochester on Tuesday evening, January 18, 1916. This committee of hustlers made such a success of last year's affair that the President evidently thought it best to keep them in harness for this year also.

The matter of extending an invitation to the Rochester Philatelic Association to join us at our Annual Dinner was taken up and President Amberg appointed the following committee to confer with the R. P. A. with regard to speakers, arrangements, etc: Messrs. W. H. Amberg, Wild, and Handler.

Nominations of officers for the ensuing year being in order, the following nominations were made and will be voted on at the next meeting:

For President: F. B. King.

For Vice President and Treasurer: F. E. Merritt.

For Secretary: H. H. Yawger.

Meeting adjourned to Tuesday, December 21, 1915.

H. H. YAWGER, Secretary.

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